

20000913.qrp v01_n943.qrl.20000913

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 19:03:04 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 1943

QRP-L Digest 1943

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [79354] DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
by Kevin L Anderson <k9iua@juno.com>
- 2) [79355] RE: QRP at the ARRL Company Picnic
by "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
- 3) [79356] Re: British Joystick Antenna , I have one!
by Frank McCrackin <wb6lma@cdsnet.net>
- 4) [79357] HF Propagation Software
by "Mark Fancher" <mmfanche@gateway.net>
- 5) [79358] RE: Repair of Old CC Headset cords.
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 6) [79359] N2CQ Appalachain Trail Report
by Paul Stroud <aa4xx@ipass.net>
- 7) [79360] Re: DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
by "Mike Lyness, AF4LQ" <olyellr@iglou.com>
- 8) [79361] RE: HF Propagation Software
by "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
- 9) [79362] Re: DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
- 10) [79363] Re: DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 11) [79364] Re: N2CQ Appalachain Trail Report
by Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
- 12) [79365] CW study material FS
by "Ken Simpson" <W8EK@fdt.net>
- 13) [79366] Another TT2 Lives
by ArtP721466@aol.com
- 14) [79367] Re: Isotron (160 meters)
by Jim Durkin <jimdurkin@yahoo.com>
- 15) [79368] WTB: ZM-2
by "Tim Cook" <timcook@erinet.com>
- 16) [79369] RE: Winter Hunt Teams
by N10DL@aol.com
- 17) [79370] N2CQ/AT still on 7.044
by John Wagner <john@neknetwork.com>
- 18) [79371] More DX Success ("Musing...")
by Kevin L Anderson <k9iua@juno.com>
- 19) [79372] N2CQ on the air

- by Brian <brian@iquest.net>
- 20) [79373] Re: Isotron (160 meters)
by Dave Sjolin <sjolin@swbell.net>
- 21) [79374] Re: QRP Best Starter Kit??
by caitlyn@netferrets.net
- 22) [79375] FS: Vibroplex Brass Racer w/cover
by "Larry Jones" <ljones@flash.net>
- 23) [79376] [FS] Bug
by Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>
- 24) [79377] Re: Difficulty in copying
by Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
- 25) [79378] QRP afield ?
by "Steve Schroder" <ki0ky@dmea.net>
- 26) [79379] Re: N2CQ/AT still on 7.044
by Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
- 27) [79380] Question about correctness
by Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
- 28) [79381] Re: Before winter gets here...
by "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
- 29) [79382] RE: Question about correctness
by Andreas Junge <andreas@OpenGrid.Com>
- 30) [79383] Antenna test
by "kc0bdw" <kc0bdw@email.msn.com>
- 31) [79384] FW: Spectacular Solar Eruption on Sept 12, 2000
by "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
- 32) [79385] Re: ULN2111A FM IF IC's -- Good for AM/SSB/CW work too
by "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
- 33) [79386] Re: Question about correctness
by wa4dou@excite.com
- 34) [79387] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
by Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
- 35) [79388] Re: Question about correctness
by Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
- 36) [79389] Re: Isotron (160 meters)
by Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
- 37) [79390] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
by wa4dou@excite.com
- 38) [79391] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
by Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
- 39) [79392] Re: Question about correctness
by wa4dou@excite.com
- 40) [79393] Silk Screening/PCB's
by Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
- 41) [79394] Re: Question about correctness
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 42) [79395] RE: Difficulty in copying
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@hboc.com>
- 43) [79396] Solder Station

- by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 44) [79397] Re: N2CQ Appalachain Trail Report
by Tim Soxman <tims@hhs.net>
- 45) [79398] Re: Question about correctness
by Shepherd@aol.com
- 46) [79399] RE: QRP Best Starter Kit??
by Mike Maiorana <mikemo@attglobal.net>
- 47) [79400] Varactor VFOs
by "Upton, Shawn" <SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com>
- 48) [79401] Michigan QRP Net Results
by ekwik@rtimail.com
- 49) [79402] Yeasu FT-847 for QRP
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 50) [79403] Jim-Elmer 101 tutorial story
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
- 51) [79404] Re: Varactor VFOs
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 52) [79405] RE: Before winter gets here...
by "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
- 53) [79406] DOUG -Many appologies
by ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
- 54) [79407] Re: QRP Afield - Question/Rules
by "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
- 55) [79408] Re:SilkScreening/PCB's
by "Dave Ek" <ekdave@earthlink.net>
- 56) [79409] Re: Question about correctness
by "Russ Hines" <radioruss@fuse.net>
- 57) [79410] RE: Varactor VFOs
by "Upton, Shawn" <SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com>
- 58) [79411] 80M PSK31 test results
by "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
- 59) [79412] Re: Varactor VFOs
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 60) [79413] QRP Afield: W7TA0
by Bruce Grubbs <n7ceeqr@earthlink.net>
- 61) [79414] Re: Before winter gets here...
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 62) [79415] Re: Varactor VFOs
by Jeff Dairiki <dairiki@dairiki.org>
- 63) [79416] Re: Building the NC-20
by "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
- 64) [79417] Elmer 101 address?
by Arthur Laurent <ALaurent@npr.org>
- 65) [79418] RE: Silk Screening/PCB's
by schoon@amgt.com
- 66) [79419] Re: Wire antenna, co-ax fed, multiple bands?
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
- 67) [79420] Re: 80M PSK31 test results

by "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
68) [79421] Re: [OT] email service provider info needed
by Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
69) [79422] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
by n2cx@voicenet.com
70) [79423] Timewave question
by M Goins <mgoins@usa.net>
71) [79424] When is QRP Afield?
by Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>
72) [79425] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
by Ray Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
73) [79426] Re: 80M PSK31 test result
by n2cx@voicenet.com
74) [79427] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
by "Mont Pierce" <MyGrapeVine@yahoo.com>
75) [79428] semiconductor source
by n2go@arrl.net
76) [79429] Re: Wire antenna, co-ax fed, multiple bands?
by "M0CQG" <m0cqg@dial.pipex.com>
77) [79430] Re: OT: Power Computing 180
by "Richard E. Robinson" <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
78) [79431] Experimental Beacon on 20m
by "Juan Antonio Lopez" <jalopezd@arrakis.es>
79) [79432] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
by "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
80) [79433] Re: Experimental Beacon on 20m
by Dave Marling <dbm@klis.com>
81) [79434] Re: Experimental Beacon on 20m
by Dave Marling <dbm@klis.com>
82) [79435] Re: Difficulty in copying
by Larry S Cahoon <wd3p@juno.com>
83) [79436] N2CQ on AT in MD
by "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
84) [79437] N2CQ on AT in MD - Needs GA from the trail
by Larry S Cahoon <wd3p@juno.com>
85) [79438] Houston QRP Club Meeting
by "Ed Manuel (N5EM)" <n5em@flash.net>
86) [79439] Re: N2CQ on AT in MD - Needs GA from the trail
by "John P. Cummins, Sr." <jpcummins@att.net>
87) [79440] Electronic Component Tester
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
88) [79441] Re: Electronic Component Tester
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
89) [79442] Pacificon is coming!!
by ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)
90) [79443] FOX: Help an Underdog!
by "Zoerb, Ron" <Zoerb.Ron@broadband.att.com>
91) [79444] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas

- by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 92) [79445] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
by Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
- 93) [79446] My experience with isotron antennas
by BOB0B0B1@aol.com
- 94) [79447] Re: Need specs on some dipped mica caps
by Jeff Furman <jfurman@ocs.net>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:08:39 EDT
From: Kevin L Anderson <k9iua@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79354] DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
Message-ID: <20000912.180506.5367.0.K9IUA@juno.com>

QRP Faithful:

Thank you to James, George, Cam, and the others
who replied to my "Musings..." post, both via the list
and in private.

Some follow-up comments:

1. Although I don't have the Locher book yet, I do have
the ARRL book by Jim Kearman, KR1S, "The DXCC
Companion: How to work your first hundred countries."
2. Several suggested gain antennas, such as beams.
Well, they are out of the question for me. As the spouse
of a pastor-to-be currently in temporary housing situations,
it will be some time before I might be able to even dream
of towers and beam antennas. Even the outdoor mounting
of a vertical such as a GAP or R7000 is not likely in the
near future. Finally, trees are short here in North Dakota,
at least in the community where I live, so I am somewhat
limited on antenna height for wires. But I will do what I
can with the limited budget I have and other restrictions
such as the geography of a midcontinent location....
(and it sounds like from some of the other replies
that I am not alone with limitations such as these).
3. I have not given up on working DX, but have largely
resigned myself in not getting the 100 countries by
Dec 31. Over the weekend on searched among the
Worked-All-Europe contestants and managed to add
several more countries -- now I am at 48. I have
been operating Int'l contests in a search-and-pounce

mode only, looking for countries I need.

4. I didn't mean to imply that contesting and DX are necessarily equal in skill sets. My opening comment with regard to contests was thinking of foxhunts and our practice in dealing with pileups -- most of the DX I run into are in pileup situations and the techniques and patience that foxhunting has engendered does pay off here.

5. At least on a SSB operational side, there seems to be a greater proportion of DX operators and chasers that run high power and beams. Fortunately on the CW end of the band I am in closer footing....

6. 15 meters was good this weekend. I rarely hear stuff on 10 meters here in North Dakota -- so I don't know what this hype is about 10m being an efficient DX band. You guys must be hearing much more on 10 than I am <grin>.

7. Some DX operators are very good about working weaker stations -- and I applaud them!!! For instance, 9A2VR this weekend knew he had my call wrong and was having all kinds of trouble getting it -- he had all but the last letter right. But he hung in there until we got it. This was SSB on 15M on Sunday morning -- I was his 300th contact in the WAE contest. But I notice that some operators appear to be "deaf" -- I have heard and tried to work several times this summer SV1VR, but to no avail. Oh well.

8. I have much to learn -- I know that. I appear to have been unrealistic in setting a goal of 100 counties in the log in one year. I am still proud of the contacts I have made, including such places as Indonesia, Mali, Guyana, Monaco, Lebanon, and our friend Rumi, LZ2RS/QRP, in Romania.

Thanks again everyone for your comments and suggestions. This is a group support group. I wish I knew more of you personally and not just as some callsign on the air or email addresses in this list.

Cheers/73. Kevin, K9IUA

Kevin Anderson, K9IUA, Lincoln/Bismarck ND

e-mail: K9IUA@juno.com Opinions all my own.

* * * * *

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!

Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!

Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:45:20 -0400

From: "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>

To: "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>

Subject: [79355] RE: QRP at the ARRL Company Picnic

Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CCB2C597@mail.arrl.org>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Well, I figured the T shirt was the highlight.:-)

Now, understand, at the picnic, all the Directors, Vice Directors and officers were feeding their faces with ribs, but the shirt did get a quite a bit of attention.

A couple even had some fun operating the TT2 for a bit in W1INF, the HQ club station. But the highlight of the day for me was when Joel Harrison suggested that maybe next year, we could set up a QRP operation the Sunday after the Board meeting; as a minimum, he was interested in having some fun. :-)

Gosh, if the whole world figures out how much fun this is, are we going to be a bit too crowded? :-)

73,

Ed Hare, W1RFI

ARRL Laboratory Supervisor

225 Main St

Newington, CT 06111

Tel: 860-594-0318

FAX: 860-594-0259

Internet: w1rfi@arrl.org

ARRL Web: <http://www.arrl.org>

ARRL Technical Information Service: <http://www.arrl.org/tis/>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Bob Hightower [mailto:nk7m@extremezone.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 6:22 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Re: QRP at the ARRL Company Picnic
>
>
> At 04:56 PM 9/12/2000 -0400, you wrote:
> >Thought you might like to see a bit of QRP at the ARRL
> company picnic. Hope
> >this doesn't crack too many monitors!
> >
> > ><http://www.arrl.org/~ehare/temp/W1RFI-Picnic.jpg>
> >
>
> Great picture, Ed. Like the T-shirt, too :^)
>
> Bob Hightower NK7M
> Chandler, AZ
> SOC #20
> K2 #157/255
>
<http://www.extremezone.com/~nk7m>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 16:57:40 -0700
From: Frank McCrackin <wb6lma@cdsnet.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79356] Re: British Joystick Antenna , I have one!
Message-ID: <39BEC2F4.75A7@cdsnet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yes, I own an "Original Joystick Variable Frequency Antenna" with the tuner which is enclosed in plastic. The antenna is sitting in my shack and the tuner is somewhere around. Interestingly, I have never tried the unit with one of my QRP rigs. Will have to do so.

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:57:26 -0400
From: "Mark Fancher" <mmfanche@gateway.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79357] HF Propagation Software
Message-ID: <001c01c01d15\$b79cd000\$2e10273f@GEARemote>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="windows-1255"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just downloaded a version of HF propagation software from the US Dept of Commerce. I wanted to know if anyone out there has any experience using propagation software, and if so, how is this US Dept of Commerce version? Its called ICEPAC.

Its nice because its FREE!

Is it any good?

Mark Fancher, W09G
mmfanche@gateway.net

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:02:51 -0400 (EDT)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: AI2Q Alex <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
Cc: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79358] RE: Repair of Old CC Headset cords.
Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.4.21.0009121952230.61217-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Alex,

Thanks for the note. I am not sure it is the same, but sure is similar. Of course it is much larger guage than any of the True Litz wire I have used.

I wonder if anyone actually still manufactures either the cords or the litz wire? It would be interesting to learn more about the How as well as the Why.

In the Telephone Business, I have run across several versions of What Could be "Litz Wire". The switch Commutator Connector wires for the old Step-By-Step PBX and C.O.'s used six inch flexible leads with olderable connectors on the ends. Pretty sure they were just Crimped on the ends of the cords.

Also most of the Receiver Cords had similar wire in them.

All of our Test Sets and Switchboard Cords were made with it.

I hadn't thought much about thru the years, but It had more uses in the

Telephone Industry than in the world of RF. Assuming it was the same stuff?

Looking forward to more old war stories. :^) Gee, Not even 60 yet :^)

Sir George, The First :^)

72 ES

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net

QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.

Gingell & Company, Ltd. Small Business Telephone Systems

Notary Public and Locksmith Services

George D. Gingell, Jr. 3052 Fairland Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904-7117

Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789

Maryland Milliwatt Club Founder and Trustee of Club Station - WQ3RP -

Grid Square FM19mb 76.94 W - 39.06 N Silver Spring, MD 20904 QRPea.A.

On Tue, 12 Sep 2000, AI2Q Alex wrote:

> Hi Sir George:

>

> I've been following this thread, and can see that I'll have to reveal my
> age. The "bronze thread" and "tinsel wire" you guys refer to was very common
> when I got into ham radio 44 years ago--and found my self reading books such
> as Alfred P. Morgan's "The Boy Electrician" (which was written a few decades
> earlier!)

>

> The wire is called Litz wire. It's a term that comes from the German word
> "litzendraht," which means "woven wire."

>

> Litz wire was originally used in the early days of radio to minimize power
> losses in solid conductors due to skin effect, where it was noted that RF
> current flow primarily happened at the surface of a thick conductor. Litz
> counteracts this effect by increasing the amount of surface area without
> increasing the size of the conductor. I suspect that the great flexibility
> of the wire was why it was used in headsets. Surely it wasn't the frequency
> of operation that dictated its use!

>

> In any case, thank you for a good description of how you deal with the
> stuff.

>

> By the way, it's still available from a number of vendors.

>

> Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L 687 .-.-.

>

>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU]On Behalf Of
> George Gingell
> Sent: Monday, September 11, 2000 9:20 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Repair of Old CC Headset cords.
>
>
> I can't find the original Question or Topic now, but here is my answer:^^)
>
> Someone asked about repairing the Cotton Covered Headset Cords, such as
> used on Old Western Electric and Trimm Headsets.
>
> The pair that I have were made in the Year that I was born. They were
> given to me by a Telephone Man down the street to use with my Crystal
> Radio and Later Ocean Hopper. I don't know what happened to the Ocean
> Hopper, but the Headset is still with me.
>
> The cords are made of cotton covering and the "Wire" if you can call it
> that, is like Bronze Thread. There are only a few strands woven with a
> cotton core string. It is almost impossible to solder it.
>
> Here is how I have repaired mine over the years.
>
> First you determine the break point. In My case it was always where the
> cord entered the Receiver unit. It has two Tinned Brass Crimp type
> connectors on the end of the cord.
>
> First, take a piece of 18 gauge Stranded wire, Preferably the silver or
> tinned type. Cut it to about 2" long and separate the strands.
>
> Temporarily put a piece of masking tape around the cord about an inch or
> two from the end. This is to prevent the cord from fraying.
>
> Oops, I almost forgot cut a piece of heat shrink tubing 1/8" Dia. about an
> inch or 1 1/2" long and slip it down on the cord. It will be used in the
> end to cover the cord at the end to prevent fraying. Tape will not do, It
> just comes un-stuck with age.
>
> O.K., Now insert three or four strands of the wire into the core so that it
> makes contact with the "Bronze Tinsel" Some times I cut off some of the
> excess cotton thread. NOT THE Bronze Tinsel. Then I take a long single
> "Strand" and insert it also in the center, then proceed to "Wire Wrap" the
> Strand around the bundle. Three Hands would be nice. :^^)
>
> Make the Wire Wrap nice and tight. Then Apply a bit of Flux, Liquid , or
> just dip it in the Flux tin. O.K. I will probably hear about "Don't Use

> Acid Flux!" Heck, I never checked what kind it was, I just used it.
>
> Then using some of the nice skinny low temp solder. solder the bundle.
>
> Then just cut off the Joint to about 1/2" long and insert it into the
> headset and tighten the screw. Slide the heat shrink into position and
> apply the hair dryer, Flame thrower, or whatever you use on the heat
> shrink.
>
> I have also used a slightly different method with good success.
>
> Very similar procedure, except Not Using the Long single strand as the
> outer wrapper.
>
> #30 Gauge BUS Wire is good for the "Wire Strands" as it is pre tinned.
>
> three to five strands are inserted into the center of the Tinsel Wire as
> before, but then you thread the bundle thru a piece of 1/8" Brass Tubing
> (Check your local Hobby Shop) I use a piece about one inch long. After
> threading the bundle thru the brass tubing, Dip the end in the flux and
> solder. Just like pipe, the flux will make the tubing suck the solder
> right in side. It will fill all the area inside and make a pretty decent
> connection with the Tinsel. You did remember to put the heat shrink on
> the cord first and slide it down away from the working area. Else you will
> find it shrunk before it's time. :^)
>
> When done, I use the Moto Tool with a cutoff wheel to make the new tip the
> proper length.
>
> This latter method has worked best for me.
>
> Some of my workmates have asked over the years how I manage to keep using
> the same cords on my test sets. :^) Now you know.(g)
>
>
>
> Sir George, The First :^)
>
> 72 ES
> QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net
> QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.
> Gingell & Company, Ltd. Small Business Telephone Systems
> Notary Public and Locksmith Services
> George D. Gingell, Jr. 3052 Fairland Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904-7117
> Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789
> Maryland Milliwatt Club Founder and Trustee of Club Station - WQ3RP -
> Grid Square FM19mb 76.94 W - 39.06 N Silver Spring, MD 20904 QRPea.A.
>

>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:13:53 -0400
From: Paul Stroud <aa4xx@ipass.net>
To: klqrp <Klqrp@applegate.org>, QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79359] N2CQ Appalachian Trail Report
Message-ID: <39BEC6C1.FFFD85EC@ipass.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,

Ken-N2CQ is currently operating from Harper's Ferry, WV on the Appalachian Trail. He is running an OHR rig with an inverted vee. His frequency is now 7038 KHz, but he may be moving up a few KHz as QRM comes and goes. His signal is a good 579-599 at the moment.

Ken would like to make as many contacts as possible while on his whirlwind AT tour of VA, WVA, and MD. He is specifically looking for contacts with VT and GA tonight (Tues) on 40M.

Tomorrow, Ken will be driving to MD with plans to be set up on the AT by 2:30PM and continuing operation until 7:30PM. You'll find him either slightly above or below 7040 KHz.

He will be heading back to his home in NJ tomorrow night. It sounds like he's having a blast!

72, Paul AA4XX

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:06:45 -0400
From: "Mike Lyness, AF4LQ" <olyellr@iglou.com>
To: <k9iua@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79360] Re: DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
Message-ID: <002f01c01d16\$83a3a5c0\$2eefffcc@iglou.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

> the log in one year. A am still proud of the contacts I

> have made, including such places as Indonesia, Mali,
> Guyana, Monaco, Lebanon, and our friend Rumi,
> LZ2RS/QRP, in Romania.

Kevin,

I've forgotten most of your original post, but I believe you said your only antennas were Hamsticks. Well, in my opinion.....to have worked as many countries as you already have in the time you've spent so far, using only Hamsticks and QRP is to be applauded. I think it's impressive and shows that you must have very good DX skills. You've done a heck of a job that most people wouldn't even try to do. Keep up the good work!

73, Mike L.

de AF4LQ Louisville, Ky
100% CW...for the pure joy of it!
<http://members.iglou.com/olyellr/>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:05:05 -0400
From: "Hare, Ed, W1RFI" <w1rfi@arrl.org>
To: "'mmfanche@gateway.net'" <mmfanche@gateway.net>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79361] RE: HF Propagation Software
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CCB2C599@mail.arrl.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="windows-1255"

> I just downloaded a version of HF propagation software from
> the US Dept of
> Commerce. I wanted to know if anyone out there has any
> experience using
> propagation software, and if so, how is this US Dept of
> Commerce version?
> Its called ICEPAC.

> Its nice because its FREE!

> Is it any good?

Oh, my, yes. I have used it and love it.

To answer a few questions on the rec.radio.amateur.antenna reflector, I put up some screen shots at:

<http://www.arrl.org/~ehare/temp/icepak.jpg>

<http://www.arrl.org/~ehare/temp/snr.jpg>

<http://www.arrl.org/~ehare/temp/angles.jpg>

I found it to be relatively easy to use and can usually set up a propagation run in a few minutes to estimate how well my QRP sig will be into a particular area.

It can be downloaded from:

<http://elbert.its.bldrdoc.gov/hf.html>

This will give you access to the 16-bit (Windows 3.x) or the 32-bit (95/98, etc) versions.

73,

Ed Hare, W1RFI

73,

Ed Hare, W1RFI

ARRL Laboratory Supervisor

225 Main St

Newington, CT 06111

Tel: 860-594-0318

FAX: 860-594-0259

Internet: w1rfi@arrl.org

ARRL Web: <http://www.arrl.org>

ARRL Technical Information Service: <http://www.arrl.org/tis/>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Mark Fancher [<mailto:mmfanche@gateway.net>]

> Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 7:57 PM

> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

> Subject: HF Propagation Software

>

>

> I just downloaded a version of HF propagation software from
> the US Dept of

> Commerce. I wanted to know if anyone out there has any

> experience using
> propagation software, and if so, how is this US Dept of
> Commerce version?
> Its called ICEPAC.
>
> Its nice because its FREE!
>
> Is it any good?
>
> Mark Fancher, W09G
> mmfanche@gateway.net
>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 17:33:45 -0700
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79362] Re: DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
Message-ID: <20000912173345.A25922@oz.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Kevin,

The CQWW contest in October (SSB) and November (CW) should be a good source of new countries.

73, Bob

--

Bob Nielsen, N7XY
Bainbridge Island, WA

nielsen@oz.net
<http://www.oz.net/~nielsen>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 18:41:40 -0600
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79363] Re: DX- Follow to my "Musing from a "failed" QRP DX Chaser"
Message-ID: <B5E42962.2826%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Kevin - I saw your post on QRP-L. Congrats on your 6 new countries!! It looks like you are steadily making progress towards your goal. It also looks

like you are doing things right. I have some input on your comments:

Ok on the antenna situation. An outside antenna will usually work better than one indoors. You may wish to experiment with some low profile antennas outside, many have reported success with an antenna just lying on the roof, others have used a small PVC pipe extension on a vent pipe to get the antenna a foot or two above the roof. I think you might find an outside antenna more useful if you are now using an indoor antenna.

Conditions will get better as the sun gets further south this fall, so keep working those contests. I'll bet you get closer to 100 countries by the end of the year than you think!

Ten Meters will get better as the fall and winter progresses. Check it at local noon your time, about 2:00 PM, for propagation to South America, particularly around the equinox, September 23 or so. Also look for openings to the South Pacific around sunset. Same deal on 15 M if 10 M is not open. The ARRL 10 M contest this December should be as good as it gets for awhile if the solar flux is at all reasonable.

Hang in there. It sounds like you are doing very well, given your circumstances.

Will you be in North Dakota next summer? I grew up in South Dakota and my folks still live there (Brookings). I try to visit them once a year and will probably be there next summer. I have never been to North Dakota (Believe it or not!!) and thought about getting up there to see you and Doc when I make the next trip. Let me know if that would be OK with you. Keep in touch and good luck on that country total. - Duffey

--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 17:43:10 -0700
From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79364] Re: N2CQ Appalachain Trail Report
Message-ID: <39BECD9E.F11363BD@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I hear both sides of the qsos real well here in california, but his code speed is way too fast for me..

Paul Stroud wrote:

> Hi Gang,
>
> Ken-N2CQ is currently operating from Harper's Ferry, WV on the
> Appalachian Trail. He is running an OHR rig with an inverted vee. His
> frequency is now 7038 KHz, but he may be moving up a few KHz as QRM
> comes and goes. His signal is a good 579-599 at the moment.
>
> Ken would like to make as many contacts as possible while on his
> whirlwind AT tour of VA, WVA, and MD. He is specifically looking for
> contacts with VT and GA tonight (Tues) on 40M.
>
> Tomorrow, Ken will be driving to MD with plans to be set up on the AT by
> 2:30PM and continuing operation until 7:30PM. You'll find him either
> slightly above or below 7040 KHz.
>
> He will be heading back to his home in NJ tomorrow night. It sounds
> like he's having a blast!
>
> 72, Paul AA4XX

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:54:21 -0400
From: "Ken Simpson" <W8EK@fdt.net>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79365] CW study material FS
Message-ID: <03a301c01d1d\$28382880\$8a99fea9@kensimps>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I know that the FCC only requires 5 WPM code for any of the tests now, but that does not mean that we need to stop at 5 WPM. That may mean that this CW study material is useless to those that are only interested in getting a license, but to those that want to move their speed up, it could be very useful.

I have found that I have much more than I need,

so might as well spread it around to a better home.

Here is what is available:

Gordon West, WB6NOA, "General Code"
For the old Element 1 b code at 13 WPM.
Kit consists of 6 cassette tapes and goes from
5 WPM to 15 WPM. \$ 20

Gordon West's Radio School, General Class
code course in stereo. Consists of 4 cassette
tapes, and goes from 5 WPM to 13 WPM. \$ 15

Gordon West Radio School
single cassette tape of 13 WPM \$ 4

ARRL "Increasing your code speed" Set #1
>From 5 WPM to 10 WPM in 2 cassette
tapes. \$ 8

ARRL - Set # 2
>From 10 to 15 WPM in 2 tapes. \$ 8

ARRL - Set # 3
>From 15 to 22 WPM in 2 tapes. \$ 8

All of the above are in excellent or better condition,
and include the paperwork that came with them
originally. ARRL set #3 is still sealed in its plastic.

Prices do not include shipping from Florida.

Thanks.

73,

Ken, W8EK

Ken Simpson
E-Mail to W8EK@fdt.net or W8EK@juno.com
Voice Phone (352) 732-8400

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:08:21 EDT

From: ArtP721466@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79366] Another TT2 Lives
Message-ID: <22.b1db36c.26f02d85@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Gang:

Just completed my TT2. Used the Toriod approach for the inductors and Voila!
500 solid milliwatts out. Clean sweet note. Can't wait to work its
siblings. Boy is this a fun hobby...

How low can you go.....?

Art Paton N9AEP

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 18:11:52 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jim Durkin <jimdurkin@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79367] Re: Isotron (160 meters)
Message-ID: <20000913011152.21105.qmail@web311.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Does anyone use the Isotron model for 160 meters?
Seems to be the most compact 160 meter antenna.
Believe cost to be about \$90???

73
Jim kt4a

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail - Free email you can access from anywhere!
<http://mail.yahoo.com/>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:17:37 -0400
From: "Tim Cook" <timcook@erinet.com>
To: "QRP" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79368] WTB: ZM-2
Message-ID: <00d101c01d20\$691c5f80\$07705acf@erinet.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Anyone have an assembled and working ZM-2 for sale? Please email price and details...

thanks

Tim

NZ8J

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:32:45 EDT
From: N10DL@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79369] RE: Winter Hunt Teams
Message-ID: <f8.2a8b849.26f0333d@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>From the looks of my team, I think I should change my name to "Joe" for the winter

Aron

N10DL

Bedford, NH

New England Hunt Club

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:37:49 -0400
From: John Wagner <john@neknetwork.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79370] N2CQ/AT still on 7.044
Message-ID: <39BEDA6D.1926C0FB@neknetwork.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just worked Ken on 7.044 at 0114Z - QRN was horrendous but I managed to pull him out for a quick QSO to give him VT from the AT. One day I will make my way down to the AT in VT and hope to have as much fun as it sounds like Ken is having!

73,

John, KB1ENS

Holland, VT

--

John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com

Web page: <http://www.neknetwork.com>

Personal Web page: <http://www.together.net/~jwag>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:58:04 EDT

From: Kevin L Anderson <k9iua@juno.com>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [79371] More DX Success ("Musing...")

Message-ID: <20000912.205436.5367.0.K9IUA@juno.com>

After I sent the note earlier today, just to prove I won't totally give up, I flipped the radio onto 15m and captured countries 49 and 50.

I had the good fortune and honor of working S. Cook Island, ZK1FGV (Ron, WA6FGV) and Myanmar, XY3ZW, both CW and right before local sunset.

Yes, I do watch the ARRL DX weekly notices, but lately many of those folks have been on bands I don't have or on times when I'm not available.

Half way and Plugging....Cheers/73.

Kevin, K9IUA

Kevin Anderson, K9IUA, Lincoln/Bismarck ND

e-mail: K9IUA@juno.com Opinions all my own.

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!

Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!

Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:58:20 -0500

From: Brian <brian@iquest.net>

To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, pigs <fpqrp@egroups.com>

Subject: [79372] N2CQ on the air

Message-ID: <39BEDF3C.CE6A0FC6@iquest.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I just worked Ken, N2CQ, at 01:40 on 7043 for about 12 minutes.

QRN/M is at record levels. I had him like 339 and he had me and 5 watts at 579. He's in Harper's Ferry W Va (my old stomping grounds).

QRP is soooo kewl!!

--

=====
KB9BVN NORCAL 2792 FISTS 5695 QRP-L 1540 QRP-ARCI 10223
39.558 N 86.095 W Johnson Co., Indiana
GRID: EM69WN - Ten Tec Scout - Attic Dipole - 5w
Proud to be a member of the American Radio Relay League
FISTS Century Club #764/#24 QRP - Flying PIG QRP #-57
=====

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:46:24 -0500
From: Dave Sjolín <sjolin@swbell.net>
To: jimdurkin@yahoo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79373] Re: Isotron (160 meters)
Message-ID: <39BEDC70.8B5561A8@swbell.net>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Jim Durkin wrote:

>
> Does anyone use the Isotron model for 160 meters?
> Seems to be the most compact 160 meter antenna.
> Believe cost to be about \$90???

Jim, I guess it would be compact compared to full size 160 meter antenna but isn't it something like 5-8 feet across and maybe that high without counting any mast. It's not your normal bird feeder. :-)

73 Magazine did review of it a number of years ago (past ten).

73 de Dave, N0IT

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 22:12:31 -0400 (EDT)
From: caitlyn@netferrets.net
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79374] Re: QRP Best Starter Kit??
Message-ID: <XFMail.20000912221231.caitlyn@netferrets.net>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
MIME-Version: 1.0

I've been following this thread and I was wondering what people think of the C. M. Howe (sp?) kits. I've seen them offered for what seem to be very reasonable prices.

73,
Caity
KU4QD

Caitlyn M. Martin
caitlyn@netferrets.net
<http://www.caitys-world.com>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:14:02 -0500
From: "Larry Jones" <ljones@flash.net>
To: "QRP-L REFLECTOR" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79375] FS: Vibroplex Brass Racer w/cover
Message-ID: <002b01c01d28\$49448ae0\$e6f91ed1@larryjones>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greetings...

I have for sale a Vibroplex Brass Racer of the triangle base design. It also includes the matching plastic dust cover. The unit is in excellent condition. The paddles sell for \$99 and the cover sells for \$30. I will let mine go for \$75 for both and that includes shipping by UPS ground. Insurance will be extra. If interested contact me direct : ljones@flash.net. Thanks...

Larry N50SG
Garland Tx

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 22:28:16 -0400 (EDT)
From: Joel Malman <malman@world.std.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Cc: k1qm@world.std.com
Subject: [79376] [FS] Bug
Message-ID: <200009130228.WAA22310@world.std.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

I have a Hi-Mound BK-100 bug for sale. Perfect condition: no dents, dings, rates a 10 out of ten. Has heavy weight base and clear plastic cover. If you ever wanted to start to use a bug, this one will be perfect for you.

\$ 85 plus shipping (probably about \$5.00). Please respond offline to:
K1QM@arrl.net

.. joel (queen mary)

--
/joel K1QM (K1 Queen Mary), Concord, MA.
QRP-L #337, QRP-ARCI #9305, MI-QRP #1641

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:32:39 -0700
From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79377] Re: Difficulty in copying
Message-ID: <39BEE747.88D28EAD@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I worked a qrp station in florida last night on 20 meters from california. I could barely copy him but I did get his call as being k3nwd, I found the callsign on qrz.com so I guess it's real. Wasn't much of a qso but at least he got through. I don't know how much power he was running, had to be very little though. I'm going to send a qsl card and find out :) I was running 100 watts so he heard me fine. I think there's a certain point where running so little power is sort of going over the line. Low power as in 1 watt or more sounds fine but going into milliwatts?? How many are really sucessful at that? Sounds a bit sadistic! Oh well whatever blows your whistle I guess! :))))

Dan

ArtP721466@aol.com wrote:

> Hello Gang:
>
> Just completed my TT2. Used the Toriod approach for the inductors and Voila!
> 500 solid milliwatts out. Clean sweet note. Can't wait to work its
> siblings. Boy is this a fun hobby...
>
> How low can you go....?
>
> Art Paton N9AEP

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:36:16 -0600
From: "Steve Schroder" <ki0ky@dmea.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79378] QRP afield ?
Message-ID: <001401c01d2b\$fec9a140\$2f44a9d8@net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I guess I missed the posting on the rules for this event. Would someone please point me in the right direction.

Thanks,

Steve KI0KY Hotchkiss, CO

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:38:46 -0700
From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79379] Re: N2CQ/AT still on 7.044
Message-ID: <39BEE8B6.4189705@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The aspect of qrp that attracted me was using low power and home brewed

gear. Sort of reminds me of the days when radio was young and no one ran anything real big, and it was all experimental etc Real radio eh?

Dan

John Wagner wrote:

> Just worked Ken on 7.044 at 0114Z - QRN was horrendous but I managed to
> pull him out for a quick QSO to give him VT from the AT. One day I will
> make my way down to the AT in VT and hope to have as much fun as it
> sounds like Ken is having!
>
> 73,
>
> John, KB1ENS
> Holland, VT
> --
> John Wagner - john@neknetwork.com
> Web page: <http://www.neknetwork.com>
> Personal Web page: <http://www.together.net/~jwag>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:42:04 -0700
From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79380] Question about correctness
Message-ID: <39BEE97C.C4C4716@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only helping to prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the other way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using possibly limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.

What do you all think?

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:53:52 -0600
From: "Steve/n0tu" <n0tu@webaccess.net>
To: "QRP-L" <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>

Subject: [79381] Re: Before winter gets here...
Message-ID: <000a01c01d2d\$da704ae0\$d208710f@sg2939h.col.hp.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Greg, Neat pictures but grim reminder for me.

I hate to admit it, but I once installed 3-10' sections (30') of some junk-yard offbrand tower. We mounted it upside down by mistake!!! It rained that night and the wind chill froze the water collected in the mating sections... there weren't any drain holes!!

Did you ever see 30' come down the hard way? We cut the guys. No one ever climbed or used that pile of scrap steel for a tower again.

BTW - Some one last year posted a great list of ideas in the form of a challenge regarding antennas. Like: Clean up connections. Check and tighten those ground connections. Maybe replace or even upgrade your feedlines. Tighten up the antenna supports for the windy season ahead. I think the earlier list was longer and more complete but it's time to get out and fool with the antennas before snow flakes fly! Make sure there fox ready!

Steve/n0tu

-----Original Message-----

From: Greg Weinfurtner <weinfurt@oak.cats.ohiou.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 2:03 PM
Subject: Before winter gets here...

>Hi all,
> I took these two pictures of an antenna brace made out of square 1"
>tubing, steel. about 1/16" thick walls. I neglected to drill a little
>drain hole for the rain and weather to drip out and you can see the results
>of the amazing power of freezing water! Fortunately the antenna was just a
>UHF array and didn't fail, but it could have!
>
> So before you get all set for winter... make sure your antennas and
>brackets cannot collect water and freeze!
>
>Here is the side view, notice the swelling:
>
><http://www.qsl.net/ns8o/ice.jpg>
>
>
>Here is the swelled part compared to how it originally looked before the

>amazing strength of the ice
>
><http://www.qsl.net/ns8o/endview.jpg>
>
>
>
>
>NS80
>
>
>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 20:08:14 -0700
From: Andreas Junge <andreas@OpenGrid.Com>
To: tacquire@earthlink.net, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79382] RE: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <NDBBKLLBBLCGOKEGAAMIIEOGDIAA.andreas@opengrid.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan,

once in a while a sit at 14.061 (or thereabout) and call CQ. I am running QRP but I do not sign /QRP. QRPers stop by and we have the usual chat like "RIG HR K2 5W ...". Sometimes you will be surprised who else stops by! I had OK, UA0 and DL's call me and they were running 100W. I do not care what power you run - I'll talk to you.

BTW, you are required by the FCC rules to use the least power to establish and continue the conversation :-)

Have fun and hear you on the air.

Andreas, N6NU
Menlo Park, CA (CM87VK)

> If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it
> considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only
> helping to
> prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the
> other
> way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using
> possibly
> limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.

>
> What do you all think?
>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 22:46:28 -0500
From: "kc0bdw" <kc0bdw@email.msn.com>
To: "qrp" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79383] Antenna test
Message-ID: <001501c01d35\$34052b00\$b51a0f3f@computer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If anyone gets this before 4:00 UTC. I would like to do a test of my random wire.. Name the freq. and will give it a try.. I have yet to make a contact and I'm wondering if it works..

Hal
KC0BDW

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 23:51:05 -0400
From: "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
To: "SWL Reflector" <swl@qth.net>
Cc: "CW Reflector" <cw@qth.net>, "QRP-L Reflector" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79384] FW: Spectacular Solar Eruption on Sept 12, 2000
Message-ID: <CKEGICNFDIMCEKEDCEHFEEHJEAAA.n4xy@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----
From: SpaceWeather.com [mailto:express@spaceweather.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 11:05 PM
To: Space Science News
Subject: Spectacular Solar Eruption on Sept 12, 2000

Space Weather News for Sept 12, 2000
<http://www.spaceweather.com>

On Tuesday, Sept. 12, less than 24 hours after the sunspot number plunged to its lowest value of the year, the Sun unleashed a surprising full-halo coronal mass ejection (CME). The leading edge of the CME could reach Earth on Thursday, Sept 14. Forecasters estimate a 30% chance of severe geomagnetic disturbances (possibly including aurora) at middle latitudes when the shock front arrives.

For more information and images, please visit <http://spaceweather.com>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:51:23 -0600
From: "James R. Duffey" <jamesd1@flash.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79385] Re: ULN2111A FM IF IC's -- Good for AM/SSB/CW work too
Message-ID: <B5E455D9.2833%jamesd1@flash.net>
Mime-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Brian - These are similar to the Motorola MC1357, whose data sheet is easier to find since I think Sprague is out of the IC business. I can send you a copy of the Motorola data sheet if you don't have one.

The chips are designed for TV sound applications. The MC1357 data sheet does not include a functional block diagram, but they do include a schematic. I think the IC comprises an IF amplifier, a quadrature detector and a limiting amplifier. The quadrature detector can be configured as a product detector (see the QST article referred to earlier). The amplifiers used for FM usually limit, or are non linear. This is not a problem for CW, and may actually be an advantage, but it will not do a good job on AM or SSB.

Given a robust front end, they would probably make a fairly good IF/detector portion of a receiver. It would make a good second chip with the 602 front end for a 3 chip receiver, but would offer more gain than the 602/602 no IF stage configuration, and hence be better for the higher bands.

It appears from my web search that the going price for these chips is \$1.00 to \$1.50.

I hope that this helps. Let us know what you decide. - Dr. Meacyle KK6MC/5
--

James R. Duffey KK6MC/5
30 Casa Loma Road
Cedar Crest, NM 87008

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:03:06 -0700 (PDT)
From: wa4dou@excite.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79386] Re: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <5357426.968817786078.JavaMail.imal@chilly.excite.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Dan,

I think the answer lies solely in "what does qrp mean to you?" 73 Roy
WA4DOU

On Tue, 12 Sep 2000 19:42:04 -0700, tacquire@earthlink.net wrote:

> If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it
> considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only helping
to
> prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the
other
> way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using
possibly
> limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.
>
> What do you all think?
>
>

Say Bye to Slow Internet!
<http://www.home.com/xinbox/signup.html>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:11:47 -0700
From: Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: n2tpa@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [79387] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
Message-ID: <39BEFE83.4DE4974@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I concur with the poor performance on 80. I cannot comment on other bands,
due to lack of info. I can tell you that on 80, it's a total waste of money.
Jim W7LS

Bill Lazure wrote:

> Levent,
>
> I own a 15M, 10M, and 80M version. The 10 & 15 work OK. A dipole
> works better, but for their small size, they work.
> The 80 DOESN'T WORK. I mounted it and tuned it up per the
> instructions. My 2:1 bandwidth was about what I'd been led to believe it
> should be. It was hearing signals about as good as my low dipole, but no
> one could hear me!!!! After hours of frustration, I took it down and
> strung my dipole back up. I've never mounted the Isotron since.
>
> 73,
>
> Bill
> W2EB
> Syracuse, NY
>
> On Mon, 11 Sep 2000 18:38:14 -0400 Levent Sasmazel <levent@netlabs.net>
> writes:
> > Hi Gang,
> >
> > I was looking limited space antennas and find this antenna in the
> > QST.
> > Any experience pros and cons about the product? I am also interested
> > with the transportability aspects of this antenna.
> >
> > Thanks and 73s
> >
> > Levent Sasmazel KC2CNY
> >
> >
>
> -----
> YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
> Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
> Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
> <http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:14:04 -0700
From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: Andreas Junge <andreas@OpenGrid.Com>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79388] Re: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <39BEFF0C.A8A4BCAF@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

But in reality where do you start,, the rule is a bit vague really. It does not specify any given power level to begin to attempt a qso. It does not say only if you cannot communicate at 10 watts should you go higher etc. I agree though you should try to keep it as little as possible, if anything it reduces the overall qrm on the band.

Dan

Andreas Junge wrote:

> Dan,
>
> once in a while a sit at 14.061 (or thereabout) and call CQ. I am running
> QRP but I do not sign /QRP. QRPers stop by and we have the usual chat like
> "RIG HR K2 5W ...". Sometimes you will be surprised who else stops by! I had
> OK, UA0 and DL's call me and they were running 100W. I do not care what
> power you run - I'll talk to you.
>
> BTW, you are required by the FCC rules to use the least power to establish
> and continue the conversation :-)
>
> Have fun and hear you on the air.
>
> Andreas, N6NU
> Menlo Park, CA (CM87VK)
>
> > If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it
> > considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only
> > helping to
> > prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the
> > other
> > way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using
> > possibly
> > limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.

> >
> > What do you all think?
> >

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:30:09 -0700
From: Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: jimdurkin@yahoo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79389] Re: Isotron (160 meters)
Message-ID: <39BF02D1.E0AF58EE@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, since the Isotron performs so poorly on 80, I'd expect it to be a virtual dummy load on 160. They might have a chance of working, if they made it about 20 feet long, which is still way, way smaller than a traditional antenna. My semi-calibrated guess is that 20 feet would work well enough to call it a marginal antenna on 160. W7LS

Jim Durkin wrote:

> Does anyone use the Isotron model for 160 meters?
> Seems to be the most compact 160 meter antenna.
> Believe cost to be about \$90???
>
> 73
> Jim kt4a
>
> -----
> Do You Yahoo!?
> Yahoo! Mail - Free email you can access from anywhere!
> <http://mail.yahoo.com/>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:30:55 -0700 (PDT)
From: wa4dou@excite.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79390] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
Message-ID: <21297842.968819455348.JavaMail.imal@chilly.excite.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Gang,

Antennas can be reduced in size about 30-40% without serious deterioration of performance, IF close attention is paid to keeping the efficiency high. High Q loading, bright shiney joints, etc. Greater than 50 % size reduction and you can count on significant deterioration of performance. It gets worse as the reduction in size gets greater. By the time you get to a mobile sized whip for 80-160 meters, your efficiency is likely well into the low end of single digits, or worse. An Isotron antenna is an air cooled dummy load. I can't believe they ever sold even one of them to hams. Use your imagination, any wire antenna can outperform an Isotron on 80 and 160, lying on the ground. Surely you can find a way to get it up off the ground. Think of all the possibilities, all the time. Experiment, wire is very cheap. :o) Good luck! 73 Roy WA4DOU

On Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:11:47 -0700, w7ls@blarg.net wrote:

> I concur with the poor performance on 80. I cannot comment on other
bands,
> due to lack of info. I can tell you that on 80, it's a total waste of
money.
> Jim W7LS
>

Say Bye to Slow Internet!
<http://www.home.com/xinbox/signup.html>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:54:24 -0700
From: Jim/Julia <w7ls@blarg.net>
To: wa4dou@excite.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79391] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
Message-ID: <39BF0880.9CFE04EF@blarg.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dang right, Roy! In fact, I did just what you suggested. I chucked a quarter wave length of coax on the ground, with a quarter wave wire tied to the center conductor, and a handy torroid on the coax, at the rig end. It outperformed the

Isotron, hands down. Some people call this a 'snake-in-the-grass' antenna. Average elevation was ankle high. Jim, W7LS

wa4dou@excite.com wrote:

> Hi Gang,
> Antennas can be reduced in size about 30-40% without serious deterioration
> of performance, IF close attention is paid to keeping the efficiency high.
> High Q loading, bright shiney joints, etc. Greater than 50 % size reduction
> and you can count on significant deterioration of performance. It gets worse
> as the reduction in size gets greater. By the time you get to a mobile sized
> whip for 80-160 meters, your efficiency is likely well into the low end of
> single digits, or worse. An Isotron antenna is an air cooled dummy load. I
> can't believe they ever sold even one of them to hams. Use your imagination,
> any wire antenna can outperform an Isotron on 80 and 160, lying on the
> ground. Surely you can find a way to get it up off the ground. Think of all
> the possibilities, all the time. Experiment, wire is very cheap. :o) Good
> luck! 73 Roy WA4DOU
> -----
> On Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:11:47 -0700, w7ls@blarg.net wrote:
>
> > I concur with the poor performance on 80. I cannot comment on other
> bands,
> > due to lack of info. I can tell you that on 80, it's a total waste of
> money.
> > Jim W7LS
> >
>
> -----
> Say Bye to Slow Internet!
> <http://www.home.com/xinbox/signup.html>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 22:04:42 -0700 (PDT)
From: wa4dou@excite.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79392] Re: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <4967282.968821482462.JavaMail.imal@chilly.excite.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan,

Look at it the other way around. If we should use only that power level necessary to maintain the desired communications, then its certainly appropriate to use as much power as necessary to establish and maintain the

desired communications, within the parameters of our licenses of course. Say for the sake of the argument that you try to do so and find 5 watts lacking. Perhaps a 6 db improvement seems appropriate. Up the power to 20 watts. The FCC, nor reason, dictates that you obsess over it. From 20 to 80 watts is another 6 db. Go there if you have to. Small power changes, say 1-2 db seldom produce any worthwhile results. Time and experience will begin to tell you what is appropriate, intuitively. 73 Roy WA4DOU

On Tue, 12 Sep 2000 21:14:04 -0700, tacquire@earthlink.net wrote:

> But in reality where do you start,, the rule is a bit vague really. It does
> not specify any given power level to begin to attempt a qso. It does not say
> only if you cannot communicate at 10 watts should you go higher etc. I agree
> though you should try to keep it as little as possible, if anything it reduces
> the overall qrm on the band.
>
> Dan
>

Say Bye to Slow Internet!
<http://www.home.com/xinbox/signup.html>

Date: Tue, 12 Sep 2000 23:40:55 -0700
From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79393] Silk Screening/PCB's
Message-ID: <39BF2177.E395447E@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Does anyone know of a cheap place to obtain custom PCBs where you supply the layout, and they produce the board? Also does anyone know of anywhere that has a silk screening kit of some sort. I have found a bit of info on these topics so far but all are too expensive.

Thanks
Dan

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 06:49:41 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <tacquire@earthlink.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79394] Re: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <008501c01d70\$54b89720\$0600a8c0@dad>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Seeing as how this IS the QRP forum.... Sure, I'm going to respond at QRP. It still EXTREMELY rare for me to dial up past 5W, and seeing as how my rig only goes to maybe 12W, it's not that big a deal.

But realistically, that what YOU want to do. The other guy? If he wants QRP only, let him say so. He's gotta be living in the world where most of the other operators on the band are up at 100W or more, so it's probably not an issue. Other than to think it's neat when he gets a QRP reply.

Mike

> If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it
> considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only helping
to
> prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the
other
> way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using possibly
> limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 07:48:42 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@hboc.com>
To: "'tacquire@earthlink.net'" <tacquire@earthlink.net>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [79395] RE: Difficulty in copying
Message-ID: <95CB658F8515D211B84B00805FA72866033242FE@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="windows-1252"

Dan,

Very successful 8-)..... at milliwatt levels believe it or not. I worked Kazakhstan with about 100 mw into my HF6V vertical with no radials. I received a 539 report which is not too bad. The same night, I worked Spain and France and got 589 reports. The challenge and the thrill of working them is what is great. Sure, sometimes it is a little difficult to copy but it improves your operating skills at the same time.

Jerry L.
W3CDE
Atlanta, GA

-----Original Message-----

From: Dan [mailto:tacquire@earthlink.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 10:33 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Difficulty in copying

I worked a qrp station in florida last night on 20 meters from california. I could barely copy him but I did get his call as being k3nwd, I found the callsign on qrz.com so I guess it's real. Wasn't much of a qso but at least he got through. I don't know how much power he was running, had to be very little though. I'm going to send a qsl card and find out :) I was running 100 watts so he heard me fine. I think there's a certain point where running so little power is sort of going over the line. Low power as in 1 watt or more sounds fine but going into milliwatts?? How many are really sucessful at that? Sounds a bit sadistic! Oh well whatever blows your whistle I guess! :)))))

Dan

ArtP721466@aol.com wrote:

> Hello Gang:
>

> Just completed my TT2. Used the Toriod approach for the inductors and
Voila!
> 500 solid milliwatts out. Clean sweet note. Can't wait to work its
> siblings. Boy is this a fun hobby...
>
> How low can you go....?
>
> Art Paton N9AEP

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 06:12:11 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79396] Solder Station
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10009130554360.719-100000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I lived a deprived life. Working for the US Army there never was a good soldering iron because the Army buys from the lowest bidder. So I just assumed that if a Weller 200 watt soldering gun was not right, it can't be done.

I noticed Contractors technicians had strange things that had a pad of wet something to clean the tip. They never borrowed an Army Weller. After I went to management jobs I think Army technicians began buying solder stations with their Army credit cards.

Last evening the entire Soloman Ceramic Soldering Station purchased for \$40.00 from Circuit City arrived. It was a good test because I had just finished making an interface unit between the computer and my radio using the Radio Shack \$4.00 15-30 watt iron.

The station heats up in 1 minute. The iron takes 8 minutes. The station has a nice tip and temp stability at about 260 degrees C. You can set it to any temp between 200 and 400 degree C. The iron will cool down fast with use. The station never cools more than 10 degree C.

For the first time at my house, when you need to solder something it isn't, find the iron, find the stand, plug in and wait: now leave it plugged in. Turn it on and when ready to use it's ready! If I have to buy a new one every year I'll do it!

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:24:44 -0400
From: Tim Soxman <tims@hhs.net>
To: tacquire@earthlink.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79397] Re: N2CQ Appalachain Trail Report
Message-ID: <39BF720C.A1CE1A77@hhs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Worked Ken last night. good sig into Uniontown (s of Pittsburgh) area.

73

Tim W3ZVT

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:24:34 EDT
From: Shephed@aol.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79398] Re: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <ee.a7cb7a2.26f0cc02@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 9/12/00 10:48:34 PM Eastern Daylight Time,
tacquire@earthlink.net writes:

> If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it
> considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only helping
to
> prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the
other
> way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using possibly
> limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.
>
> What do you all think?

No, work as you normally would.

A QSO with a fellow Ham is a great thing no matter what the station, or power level.

\$.02

72, 73, oo's

Dan, N8IE Kettering, Oh

FPqrp #-6, QRP-1 #1404, FISTS #4985, Zombie #667 SOC #284

<http://members.aol.com/shephed/n8ie.htm>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:39:33 -0400
From: Mike Maiorana <mikemo@attglobal.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79399] RE: QRP Best Starter Kit??
Message-ID: <39BF7585.8E773EBB@attglobal.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

You can get the Elmer101 information FREE on the web. Check my old web site

<http://www.qsl.net/kf4trd>

It's all there, including links to other pages of information, like Glen's fantastic technical pages.

Enjoy!

Mike Maiorana, KU4QO (ex. KF4TRD)

Doug Hendricks wrote:

>2. Availability of the Elmer 101 information. You can get a complete
>course in building the kit, explaining not only what you are to do, but why.
>(You get the info from a web page, buy the Elmer 101 issue of QRPP for \$12
>including S&H from QuickSilver Printing, P.O. Box 757, Socorro, NM 87801, or
>you buy the 98 Back Issues of QRPP, which have both the Elmer 101 issue and
>the Jim Kortge 2N2222/40 info for \$24, see NorCal web page,
><http://www.fix.net/norcal.html>)

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:59:15 -0400
From: "Upton, Shawn" <SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com>
To: "'qrp-1@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79400] Varactor VF0s
Message-ID: <E1F0152638DBD311AEF700D0B74455E20824FD@EXCHANGE_NH>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

A while back I added a 50k 10 turn trimpot to my 1340. Fearful of possible inductance in the trimpot, I placed .1u caps across the terminals. Now thinking about it much later, I'm wondering what effects does this have? Since the trimpot varies the bias voltage on the varactor, which in turns varies the capacitance of the varactor, I'm a bit curious how the heck the radio still tunes, since that varactor is now ac coupled to ground through the .1u cap. Am I missing something? Have I obliterated drift performance of the radio? Or is this a low impedance node and the .1u caps really don't have an effect?

KB1CKT
Shawn Upton

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:11:12 -0400
From: ekwik@rtimail.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79401] Michigan QRP Net Results
Message-ID: <OFF316342D.D0AAD19B-0N85256959.0047DE1E@rtimail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

We had four check ins last night.
K1QM
K1CL
WA8BXN
KA9LVS

The QRN was very heavy but all signals were stronger than in the past. 80 meters is getting a little better each week. WA8BXN was a solid 589 at 5 watts. The Michigan QRP Net meets each Tuesday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time on 3.535 MHz. NCS is AB8DF.

Ed AB8DF

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:26:59 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79402] Yeasu FT-847 for QRP
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20000913082659.007e0b80@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

QRP-Lers,

Recently, I traded in my old Kenwood V/UHF equipment for a Yeasu FT-847. Lots of reasons including full duplex satellite operation, several improvements in filtering technologies, built-in keyer that seems like it goes up to 200 WPM (HSCW), and many other useful features. Excellent manual with lots of information on how to use all the modes of operation within it's wide range of capabilities.

>From the QRP point of view, my rig will reduce power to just under 1 W (various meters). It does this on CW and SSB and all the other modes too, I suppose, though I haven't checked yet. However, it uses 5 A of input power to deliver 1 W output. Lots of overhead to maintain in this little gem. My first test with CW was at 1 W out. I listened on 40 for the weakest signal I thought I could copy and gave him a call. The VE7 was running a TT2 at 400 mW output. Too much QSB to maintain a lengthy QSO but it was my first TT2 contact and I was a new state for him. I've gotten good signal reports from all contacts on both CW and SSB while running QRP power levels. Works fine at QRP levels with PSK-31 too.

Of course, part of the challenge with QRP is to make contacts without all the bells and whistles. I have QRP rigs to do that with too. But it's nice to have a rig with many digital features to use when you want to and do all the QRO things I'm also intersted in.

Check out the FT-847 web site: <http://www.en.com/users/rayd/ft-847/>

Chuck Carpenter, Point, Rains County, Texas -- EM22cv, RARA #003
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:34:40 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79403] Jim-Elmer 101 tutorial story
Message-ID: <66.75c632e.26f0dc70@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I finally took a look at the Elmer 101 info based upon Doug Hendriks pst on kits. Great stuff. He e noted a source for \$12 for the whole package already copied. Better than having to print out the 150 pages worh of stuff. Sent him a note about his post. He didn't have the curtesty to respond directly but

rather had that Mile Mariona do that for him. I didn't realize I was talking with god on this subject.

On the positive side, I found the Elmer information very useful. It goes into the theory on how all the systems work and why.

Hope your job goes a little bit smoother. Got to be a big change from working at home...Alan KB7MBI

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:39:01 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79404] Re: Varactor VFOs
Message-ID: <00bf01c01d88\$06ac8060\$2101a8c0@insydesw.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Wow, this really made me think!!!

Did you put the caps across the inputs only on the pot? Then the caps probably would be fairly isolated from the varactor circuit. Or if the wiper had a cap on it, but the wiper produced a voltage and the varactor circuit had another series resistance, that might also help to isolate it. But if you put the cap right there so that it was 'across' the varactor, then I just don't understand how you didn't kill it! Unless by accident you didn't put the caps in there the way you think you did.

Mike

> A while back I added a 50k 10 turn trimpot to my 1340. Fearful of possible
> inductance in the trimpot, I placed .1u caps across the terminals.
Now
> thinking about it much later, I'm wondering what effects does this have?
> Since the trimpot varies the bias voltage on the varactor, which in turns
> varies the capacitance of the varactor, I'm a bit curious how the heck the
> radio still tunes, since that varactor is now ac coupled to ground through

> the .1u cap. Am I missing something? Have I obliterated drift
performance
> of the radio? Or is this a low impedance node and the .1u caps
really
> don't have an effect?
>
> KB1CKT
> Shawn Upton
>
>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:36:33 -0400
From: "AI2Q Alex" <ai2q@ispchannel.com>
To: <weinfurt@oak.cats.ohiou.edu>
Cc: "QRP-L (E-mail)" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79405] RE: Before winter gets here...
Message-ID: <000401c01d87\$a232c2c0\$5c32a7d0@ispchannel.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

(1) Ice can also separate tubing sections, forcing them apart. I've had that happen here in southern Maine.

(2) The power of ice is truly awesome. If you want to learn about how it destroyed a very solidly built expeditionary vessel, stranding the crew on the Antarctic ice floe, check out <http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/shackleton/index.html>. This site has some animations showing how the ice crushed the ship "Endurance" during an ill-fated 1915 expedition. By the way, the crew had an early radio receiver aboard, but no transmitter. The story, available in a paperback book called "Endurance," is spellbinding. Photographs were taken, and some survived.

Vy 73, AI2Q, Alex in Kennebunk, Maine QRP-L 687 .-.-.

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Greg Weinfortner
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 3:54 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Before winter gets here...

Hi all,

I took these two pictures of an antenna brace made out of square 1" tubing, steel. about 1/16" thick walls. I neglected to drill a little drain hole for the rain and weather to drip out and you can see the results of the amazing power of freezing water! Fortunately the antenna was just a UHF array and didn't fail, but it could have!

So before you get all set for winter... make sure your antennas and brackets cannot collect water and freeze!

Here is the side view, notice the swelling:

<http://www.qsl.net/ns8o/ice.jpg>

Here is the swelled part compared to how it originally looked before the amazing strength of the ice

<http://www.qsl.net/ns8o/endview.jpg>

NS80

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:50:02 EDT
From: ARDUJENSKI@aol.com
To: ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79406] DOUG -Many appologies
Message-ID: <cc.9f709c3.26f0e00a@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I sent a post which was not intended for the list and was in poor taste. My appologies to you Doug Hendricks and the group. I have removed myself from the list for becoming part of what I disliked about the list in the first place. Again Doug it was out of line and tacky. I am embarrassed and ashamed. Please just let this topic die on this note. Alan KB7MBI

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:44:44 -0700
From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: "Bob Hightower" <nk7m@extremezone.com>, <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79407] Re: QRP Afield - Question/Rules
Message-ID: <003601c01da2\$7b3740e0\$659b2a3f@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

-----Original Message-----

From: Bob Hightower <nk7m@extremezone.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Monday, September 11, 2000 7:22 PM
Subject: QRP Afield - Question

>Does the 8 hour limit apply to the 'bonus' operation on Sunday? What I mean
>is, can we operate 8 hours from 1800Z the 16th, and still operate during
>the bonus period if we are in the field?

>

>Also, with the other contests going on, are contacts with any other station
>counted? If they aren't in the QRPA contest, might make log checking a bit
>hairry, but the exchange is so simple, it might be that some of them get
>mixed in with QRPA logs.

>

Bob and multitudes-

In the interests of keeping the rules simple, let's just stick to the eight hours across the board- it's getting late and we don't want extra confusion over hours. As always, I'll welcome comments and feedback on this topic- that's what makes future events like this better!

There always seems to be more than one contest happening on most weekends. If you've got the 'QRP Afield' exchange info, it counts as a QS0. For my part, I do not need to see logs- I will not check them. We're all gentlepersons here, and I've got no intention of searching the logs for questionable QS0s- life's too short for that!

Attached is a reposting of the earlier QRP Afield announcement in condensed form- (there are no changes added)

When: September 16 (Sat) 1800Z
 to
 September 17 (Sun) 1800Z

Operate any eight (8) hours maximum out of that time interval .

Where: Any band, QRP frequencies suggested

Call 'CQ QRP'- you know what to do!

Exchange: RST, State/Province/Country, Name

Scoring:

After last year's algebraic gymnastics, it's going to be simple this year:
Number of QSOs!

Power: 5W or less.

Although I expect folks will pretty much stick to CW, other modes are fine as well. Contacts using voice and digital modes (no digipeaters) are fine and count for extra QSOs- you may work someone once in each band using any of the three categories (CW/voice/digital).

You may work stations again for credit on other bands.

Entry categories:

- Home

- Portable. All antennas must be at least 500' from a fixed station location. Operating from your backyard while tied into your home station antenna does not count!

Multi-ops are fine- I'll simply list the extra operators in the summary.

Sunday Bonus:

Starting 0700Z Sunday, portable stations out overnight (backpack/tent/RV) sign /P after their calls. After this time, work only stations signing /P. These /P stations may work anyone. Sunday is a 'fresh start'- these add to the QSO total.

Reporting:

Summaries to me within 30 days after the event. This need consist only of the real basics- name, call, where you were, and how many QSOs! Logs are optional. If you run milliwatt power, note that and I'll put it in the summary.

Thanks for the bandwidth-
73, Dave Benson, NN1G

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 07:51:32 -0600
From: "Dave Ek" <ekdave@earthlink.net>
To: <tacquire@earthlink.net>
Cc: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79408] Re:SilkScreening/PCB's
Message-ID: <000d01c01d89\$ba556ea0\$3f813389@ekdant>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan,

FAR Circuits (<http://www.cl.ais.net/~farcir/>) does custom single-sided and double-sided (non-plate-through holes), including silkscreen, pretty cheaply. I've had Fred do a few for me. Terms for custom boards can be seen at <http://www.cl.ais.net/~farcir/terms1.htm>.

73,

Dave AB0GO

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:50:49 -0400
From: "Russ Hines" <radioruss@fuse.net>
To: <tacquire@earthlink.net>
Cc: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79409] Re: Question about correctness
Message-ID: <005e01c01d89\$c0ac0d40\$232044d8@rbhines>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I think there's already way too much worry about "correctness," political and otherwise. However, I'd say the "correct" thing to do if you hear a QRP station calling is work him.

Have fun.

73,
Russ
WB8ZCC

----- Original Message -----

From: Dan <tacquire@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 10:42 PM
Subject: Question about correctness

> If you hear a qrp station should you respond only at qrp levels or is it
> considered ok to respond at higher power. After all you are only helping
to
> prove that the other operator can contact you using low power, not the
other
> way around. Although I guess it means more if both are qrp using possibly
> limited equipment in regards to both transmit and receive.
>
> What do you all think?
>
>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 10:14:50 -0400
From: "Upton, Shawn" <SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com>
To: "'Mike Yetsko'" <myetsko@insydesw.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
<qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79410] RE: Varactor VFOs
Message-ID: <E1F0152638DBD311AEF700D0B74455E20824FE@EXCHANGE_NH>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Yetsko [mailto:myetsko@insydesw.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2000 9:39 AM
To: SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com; Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Varactor VFOs

Wow, this really made me think!!!

Did you put the caps across the inputs only on the pot? Then the caps probably would be fairly isolated from the varactor circuit. Or if the wiper had a cap on it, but the wiper produced a voltage and the varactor circuit had another series resistance, that might also help to isolate it. But if you put the cap right there so that it was 'across' the varactor, then I just don't understand how you didn't kill it! Unless by accident you didn't put the caps in there the way you think you did.

Mike

I have to go back and look; I just happened to think about it today. I used two .1u caps; since the trimpot goes from +12v (I think it's 12V... maybe it's the regulated 8V) to ground, my two .1u caps (inbetween each terminal of the trimpot) has to go across that bias voltage to the varactor. Hence my fear: the .05u of capacitance (of unknown tempco) added to the 10-20pF of the varactor. Of course, the coupling of this total capacitance is very lite, so maybe it doesn't show up in intial tests?

There was another suggestion from this list, to get the handbook. I almost bought one last weekend (to replace my 1989 copy) but the clerk told me there was a new one (2001) coming out soon. Anyone know when that is coming out?

KB1CKT
Shawn Upton

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 10:14:29 -0700
From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Cc: "Howard Teller" <hteller@home.com>
Subject: [79411] 80M PSK31 test results
Message-ID: <009501c01da6\$1ce94480\$659b2a3f@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang-

(Thanks to George, N2APB, for his informative posting yesterday about the 'doings' on 80 meter PSK31!)

I put up a low 80M dipole on Sunday and have since been on nightly to check coverage with the new 80M project transceiver. I'm pleased to report that it

seems to work very well, and last night's session yielded 4 QSOs:

W1HY, Paul (RI)
KT6TY/4, Skip (SC)
K4DXL, Jack (SC)
N2APB, George

Of these four, Skip proved to be the roughest copy- he's in an antenna-restricted condo and his antenna is low, and partially indoors as well. I was heartened and pleasantly surprised to receive a 'solid copy' report from the other SC station. Here's an unretouched excerpt of that QSO:

<snip>

K4DXL K4DXL K4DXL de NN1G NN1G NN1G KKKnr l,o NN1G de K4DXLsolid copy here in Greenville South Carolina dave good signall heh copy??? BTU Dave NN1G de K4DXL kneeltt

K4DXL K4DXL de NN1G NN1G . Thanks, Jack, and very glad to hear that!! That is good news indeed. You're pretty solid copy here tonight- about 90% 90% or better. How now, Jack K4DXL K4DXL de NN1G KKK

<snip>

I had similar good luck with a Monday evening QSO with VE2FT, Gilles, about 250-300 miles from me. He reported 95% copy on me, and I attribute much of the other 5% to the way I type!

This is just too much fun to be legal! We are (re)learning as we experiment that the apparent key to success is in the antennas. Although KH6TY/4 and I are both doing well within several hundred miles with our 'crap' skywires, it's clear that a little extra effort on the antenna side would really pay off. As George mentioned, the upcoming issue of the NJ Club journal will feature an antenna article and kit project by Joe Everhart, N2CX. Just the ticket for getting on 80M if you're not there already!

Good stuff- can't wait for the next issue of the NJ Club journal! :-)

73- Dave Benson, NN1G

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 10:25:52 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: "Upton, Shawn" <SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion"

<qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79412] Re: Varactor VF0s
Message-ID: <00ed01c01d8e\$88396c00\$2101a8c0@insydesw.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you put the caps between the pot pins, it may not be to ground. There may be another resistance off the bottom of the pot to limit it's range. If it's a tuning type setup, more than likely. If it's a trimpot on the PCB designed to be setup for alignment, then probably not.

Mike

> I have to go back and look; I just happened to think about it today.
I used
> two .1u caps; since the trimpot goes from +12v (I think it's 12V...
maybe
> it's the regulated 8V) to ground, my two .1u caps (inbetween each
terminal
> of the trimpot) has to go across that bias voltage to the varactor.
Hence
> my fear: the .05u of capacitance (of unknown tempco) added to the
10-20pF
> of the varactor. Of course, the coupling of this total capacitance is
very
> lite, so maybe it doesn't show up in intial tests?

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 07:33:19 -0700
From: Bruce Grubbs <n7ceeqrp@earthlink.net>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, Elecraft reflector <elecraft@qth.net>, wshogin@primenet.com
Subject: [79413] QRP Afield: W7TA0
Message-ID: <4.3.2.7.0.20000913072930.0316aef8@earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

K7DHF and I will operate QRP Afield under the Northern Arizona QRP Assoc. club call, W7TA0, from Saddle Mountain, 8880 feet and about 20 miles north of Flagstaff, AZ. We will start at 1800z Saturday and operate until we collapse, or 8 hours, or both.

We'll run my K2 into a DK9SQ-supported vertical.

72 and GL to all
Bruce N7CEE

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 07:37:08 -0700 (PDT)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79414] Re: Before winter gets here...
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10009130734180.28865-1000000@rotor.dri.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 12 Sep 2000, Greg Weinfurtner wrote:

> So before you get all set for winter... make sure your antennas and
> brackets cannot collect water and freeze!
>

Good information!

And for those of you who are putting up towers....remember
this:

The legs of the tower MUST be able to drain for the same
reason.

If you just stick the first section down in the cement, you
MUST drill some drain holes. This is why the books show you
how to put some sand/gravel in the bottom of the hole for
the bottom section to set on and then add the cement.

More than one tall tower has fallen due to split legs!

cul,

73, Ron

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@qsl.net....SOC #2.....Nevada....NRA LIFE....
.....SOWP 5545M.....WHINERS #1.....ZOMBIE #18.....
....Visit my Home Page.....<http://www.qsl.net/ku7y/>....

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 07:38:31 -0700
From: Jeff Dairiki <dairiki@dairiki.org>
To: SUpton@ALLEGROMICRO.com, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79415] Re: Varactor VF0s
Message-ID: <200009131438.HAA25907@matthews.dairiki.org>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

>Shawn Upton writes:

>A while back I added a 50k 10 turn trimpot to my 1340. Fearful of possible
>inductance in the trimpot, I placed .1u caps across the terminals. Now
>thinking about it much later, I'm wondering what effects does this have?

Does the wiper of the tuning pot connect directly to the varactor?

In the SW-40, for example, there is a .01uf decoupling cap from the
pot wiper to ground. The varactor is biased through a 1M resistor
which keeps the decoupling cap from loading the oscillator.

Jeff, KI6MO/7

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:37:21 -0600
From: "Rod, N0RC" <n0rc@qsl.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79416] Re: Building the NC-20
Message-ID: <038101c01d90\$7fc22560\$838511d8@zephyr>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

----- Original Message -----

From: Ed Nelson <edxnelson@home.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 3:58 PM
Subject: Building the NC-20

> I've been working on the NC-20 for a week or so now and today I
finished

> winding and installing the receiver toroids (Sp.?). I fired her up and she

^^^^^^

I always have trouble with that one too. I think it's toroids. But my spelling checker still barfs on it. ;-) Anyway...

> Now I have to make a decision; do I do the AG mod now or finish the
> rig like it was originally, and do the ag mod later? I know it
makes more
> sense to do it now, but I understand that it complicates adjusting
the
> offset of the transmitter. I would also kind of like to see how the
AG
> preformed before the mod, so I can develop an understanding and

My vote is do the mod now. I've built 4 NC-20s and found it easier to do the mod(s) first. Believe me, if you do it later you will wish that you did it first! Much better AGC action with the mod.

As for adjusting the offset: Tune the RX first and get the tone you want. I used Spectrogram to get the side tone exactly right and centered in the passband. I would TX a 14060 sig from a second rig, into a dummy load to use as an RX alignment sig. That done, and with out moving the NC20 tuning dial; I set the NC20 to TX into a dummy load, then I adjusted the TX trimmer while measuring the frequency output with a frequency counter. Nothing fancy, I have the radio shack unit discussed on the list a time or two.

> of the AG circuit. I'm also wondering what other mods are worth doing.

There are several good mods for the NC20 most are discussed in an article written by list member Gary Surrency in the Winter 1999 QRPp.

One mod not in the article is the PA mod. Lower R80 to 15ohms +/- a few, and reduce the PA final XMFR windings from 10 to 5. This increases the PA stability and reduces the risk of self oscillation. Gary posted this mod to QRP-L very early this year.

Here is one on my ideas. If you have added the ten-turn pot, you will notice how easy it spins. To reduce the possibility of accidental rotation during operation by bumping it, I placed a piece of thick felt between the knob and front panel. Then I adjusted the "drag" to suit my taste, works pretty good.

GL with the NC20, your going to like it. It's a great rig.

72/3 Rod, NØRC -- Fort Collins, CO

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 11:08:59 -0400
From: Arthur Laurent <ALaurent@npr.org>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79417] Elmer 101 address?
Message-ID: <64ACCD0E0722D411AB6000400B40CE213D1212@npr-01-msg.npr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Could someone please point me to the URL for the Elmer 101 series?

Thanks!

Art KD4CS0

(Our club is starting the Fall Technician class tonight. CW <<IS>> a part of the curriculum, for those students who are interested. (They're each encouraged to give CW a try.) There will be both VHF and HF stations set up at the start of class to give the students a chance to see just WHAT they're getting themselves into! <g>)

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:20:48 -0700
From: schoon@amgt.com
To: <tacquire@earthlink.net>, <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79418] RE: Silk Screening/PCB's
Message-ID: <c=US%a=_%p=American_Geotech%l=AG-CALCITE-BD-000913152048Z-3312@mail.amgt.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dan,

Keypro comes to mind if you want to roll your own in small batches. I think they are at: <http://www.keypro.com> . I've also run into another company called Sierra Proto Express and can be found at: <http://www.sierraprototoexpress.com> . I am looking into the latter company for producing some of my proto PCBs for work. I've never used either company as of yet, so YMMV. No commercial interest, kickbacks,

discounts, etc...

72

.mark

>-----

>From: Dan[SMTP:tacquire@earthlink.net]

>Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2000 11:40 PM

>To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

>Subject: Silk Screening/PCB's

>

>Does anyone know of a cheap place to obtain custom PCBs where you supply the
>layout, and they produce the board? Also does anyone know of anywhere that
>has

>a silk screening kit of some sort. I have found a bit of info on these

>topics

>so far but all are too expensive.

>

>Thanks

>Dan

>

>

>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 08:30:56 -0700 (PDT)

From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [79419] Re: Wire antenna, co-ax fed, multiple bands?

Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10009130819150.29403-1000000@rotor.dri.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Good question.

And there have been many good replies.

Without doing any of the math to really see just how "good
or bad" my antenna worked, let me show what I used for awhile.

It was a piece of 1 1/2" pipe that was 24' long. I fastened
this to a 4x4 post that was planted in the ground. No form
of insulation was used, just metal to wood.

I put down about 40 radials that were about 35' long. Not
measured but rather just estimated by stepping off.

I fed this with 75 ohm CATV drop line. This is about the size of RG59 but includes a wire in the jacket to suspend it by.

The feed line was about 250' long.

This went to the antenna connector on the TS 930 which had a auto tuner built in.

I used this antenna from 40m to 10m. However, most of the time it was used on only 40m, 30m and 20m due to band condx.

I had LOTS and LOTS of fun while using this antenna! It was all that I could put up for several months after moving to the (then) new place.

Later, after having a nice tower/yagi plus a DX77 vertical at 30' I ran some checks on that little vertical.

On 30m it was better then the DX77.

On all other bands the DX77 was better by a LONG way! (The yagi isn't a fair compairison).

So the bottom line is that Yes, it will work, BUT you sure do pay the price.

But always remember this.....

ANY ANTENNA IS BETTER THAN NONE!

So it could be used until you can improve it!

(FWIW....I was one of the lucky western stations to work Heard Island using that antenna and 100w on 40m CW)

: -)

OK, back in my hole.....

73, Ron

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@qsl.net....SOC #2.....Nevada....NRA LIFE....
.....SOWP 5545M.....WHINERS #1.....ZOMBIE #18.....
....Visit my Home Page.....<http://www.qsl.net/ku7y/>....

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 11:48:25 -0700
From: "Dave Benson" <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79420] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
Message-ID: <001a01c01db3\$341de5e0\$6e9b2a3f@pavilion>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Mark-

>I'll listen...what frequency is everyone using on 80 meters?
>72 Mark,

(I've taken the liberty of posting the answer, since it may be generally useful.)

The transceiver is fix-tuned and covers slightly over a KHz on a panoramic display window. That 'window on the world' is 3580-3581 KHz. We shoot for the middle of that window- 3580.5 but it varies. It's sort of a 'party line'- we might be right on that frequency, or if we get into a QSO or roundtable with someone else beforehand, we may end up parked on a slightly different frequency. In any case, if we're viewable on-screen and copyable, you'll find us. If there's enough activity, you'll see two or three simultaneous QSOs within the passband. The 'standard' frequency published by Peter Martinez, G3PLX, is 3580.15, but at present we'll see activity up to 2-3 KHz away at times.

The growth in this mode is new enough (especially on 80M) that we as a community will make this 1- KHz window a de facto 'hotspot'. Needless to say, once you begin using a frequency, it attracts additional users- this is 'goodness'- there's plenty of room in a KHz-wide passband!

73- Dave

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:10:04 -0700 (PDT)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@dri.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79421] Re: [OT] email service provider info needed
Message-ID: <Pine.GS0.4.10.10009130907450.29888-100000@rotor.dri.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi All,

Sorry for the delay but our mail server was off line for awhile!

Anyway, thanks to the MANY people who gave me suggestions for free or low cost providers.

I'll do the follow up and see what shakes out....

(Having the Blue Angels based out of our hanger during the Air Races is tough.....but somebody's gotta do it!)

:-)

OK, back in my hole.....

73, Ron

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
....ku7y@qsl.net....SOC #2.....Nevada....NRA LIFE....
.....SOWP 5545M.....WHINERS #1.....ZOMBIE #18.....
....Visit my Home Page.....<http://www.qsl.net/ku7y/>....

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 12:22:27 US/Eastern
From: n2cx@voicenet.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: njqrp@njqrp.org, n2cx@voicenet.com
Subject: [79422] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
Message-ID: <200009131622.MAA14834@nss4.cc.lehigh.edu>

Gnag,

Now I gotta chime in here!

While Dave and Skip and George were all getting their jollies working each other I was a fly on the wall. My PSK80 proto is still being upgraded gradually to make it proudce more than 500 mw or so PEP. 80 meters during the summer is brutal for QRPP. I was able to copy all of them at least most of the time. Imagine the frustration of not being able to be heard! That will soon change, though 'cuz the transmitter mods are nearly done. I do expect QRPP to be practical on 80 during the lower-nosie winter months but for now I (shudder) need MORE POWER!

On the antenna front I'm using one of the prototype Squirt antennas that will be an NJQRP kit. It's a shortened 80 meter dipole that will fit in about a 50 foot space. Nothing too earthshatteringly new about it though but it's a homebrewer's delight through and through. You make your own insulators and a simple-minded tuner. The cost has not yet been set since we are still pricing materials. But when we do formally announce it later this month you will be very pleased! As Justin Wilson says "I guarantee!"

Regardless of my lack of PSK31 success to date I've had some excellent cw QSO's on 80 cw at qrp levels. Even got a 599 - of course he was only 1090 mi away!

72/73,

Joe E.,
N2CX

This message was sent using Voicenet WebMail.
<http://www.voicenet.com/webmail/>

Date: 13 Sep 00 11:31:48 EST
From: M Goins <mgoins@usa.net>
To: qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU
Subject: [79423] Timewave question
Message-ID: <20000913163148.26644.qmail@aw163.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Just wondering if anyone on the list is using the Timewave 59Y or the 599=zx.
I've used the 59+ in the past, and was wondering if these two are really = much better by comparison. Any information would be appreciated. Please respond off list. thanks.

mike
wb5yjx

Get free email and a permanent address at <http://www.amexmail.com/?A=3D1>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 09:33:25 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jeff <fantbb@yahoo.com>
To: qrp qrp <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79424] When is QRP Afield?
Message-ID: <20000913163325.12426.qmail@web110.yahoomail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

When is QRP Afield taking place? Probably this weekend I am guessing.
What are the hours and times?

Thanks!

Jeff

=====
Jeff Jones
AB6MB
NorCal QRP Club #65, QRP-L #1780, ARCI 10071
Radical FIST Member 6798
Love to play wargames!
ICQ 62450117

Do You Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Mail - Free email you can access from anywhere!
<http://mail.yahoo.com/>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 12:10:06 -0600
From: Ray Colbert <w5xe@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79425] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
Message-ID: <39BFC2FE.4F9FC990@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Why is it that digital people insist on getting
right next to other types of operations i.e.
glowbug/boatanchor and colourburst transmissions/qso's
are using 3579-3580 and I don't think the modes are going
to be compatible. some glowbuggers have already been

complaining about the tones while trying to work
on 80. Some consideration about moving that psk or
whatever it is into the digital part of the band.

--

"Politicians are like nappies. Both should be
changed regularly -- and for the same reason"

"Scotsman - Scotsman's Diary 12/97"

Ray Colbert, W5XE, 00TC#3618, SOWP#1064M SOC#78 fp #111
NCT2 (also w5xe@juno.com El Paso, (FAR WEST) TEXAS

_____NetZero Free Internet Access and Email_____
<http://www.netzero.net/download/index.html>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 14:24:55 US/Eastern
From: n2cx@voicenet.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79426] Re: 80M PSK31 test result
Message-ID: <200009131825.0AA163004@nss4.cc.lehigh.edu>

Gang,

Unlike one of the presidential candidates, I think I may be dyslexic...

And I make mistakes too!

I wrote:

>Regardless of my lack of PSK31 success to date I've had some excellent cw QSO's
>on 80 cw at qrp levels. Even got a 599 - of course he was only 1090 mi away!

I really meant to say "100 mi away"

72/73,

Joe E., N2CX

This message was sent using Voicenet WebMail.
<http://www.voicenet.com/webmail/>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 11:48:50 -0700
From: "Mont Pierce" <MyGrapeVine@yahoo.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79427] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
Message-ID: <015901c01db3\$41eee2a0\$27010101@RTA>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

All these QSOs going on in 1 KHz of bandwidth... sure hope FCC doesn't get any ideas
and start thinking that they should narrow our bands... hi hi

73,
km6wt

----- Original Message -----

From: Dave Benson <nn1g@earthlink.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2000 11:48 AM
Subject: Re: 80M PSK31 test results

> Mark-
>
> >I'll listen...what frequency is everyone using on 80 meters?
> >72 Mark,
>
> (I've taken the liberty of posting the answer, since it may be generally
> useful.)
>
> The transceiver is fix-tuned and covers slightly over a KHz on a panoramic
> display window. That 'window on the world' is 3580-3581 KHz. We shoot for
> the middle of that window- 3580.5 but it varies. It's sort of a 'party
> line'- we might be right on that frequency, or if we get into a QSO or
> roundtable with someone else beforehand, we may end up parked on a slightly
> different frequency. In any case, if we're viewable on-screen and copyable,
> you'll find us. If there's enough activity, you'll see two or three
> simultaneous QSOs within the passband. The 'standard' frequency published
> by Peter Martinez, G3PLX, is 3580.15, but at present we'll see activity up
> to 2-3 KHz away at times.
>
> The growth in this mode is new enough (especially on 80M) that we as a
> community will make this 1- KHz window a de facto 'hotspot'. Needless to
> say, once you begin using a frequency, it attracts additional users- this is
> 'goodness'- there's plenty of room in a KHz-wide passband!

>
> 73- Dave
>

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 14:49:44 -0400 (EDT)
From: n2go@arrl.net
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79428] semiconductor source
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.20.0009131445580.766-100000@valhalla.v>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

I was looking for a replacement audio chip and spotted it at this website:

<http://ued.net/index.html>

They have a good assortment of semiconductors. Most importantly they had a 575C2 for my Dentron HF200A :)) They even had a belt for my old tape deck for \$0.44 . Your mileage may vary.

73,

Jim n2go

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 19:55:13 +0100
From: "M0CQG" <m0cqg@dial.pipex.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79429] Re: Wire antenna, co-ax fed, multiple bands?
Message-ID: <015f01c01db5\$cf6eb900\$ac0abc3e@UKsolsf56>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks again to all who responded on this question, either on the list or by e-mail. It is very much appreciated. Hopefully as my skills increase, I'll be able to offer beginners the same kind of support I've enjoyed here thus far.

73

Mike

M0CQG

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 15:15:40 -0400
From: "Richard E. Robinson" <rerobins@email.uncc.edu>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79430] Re: OT: Power Computing 180
Message-ID: <v03110701b5e58279c4e6@[152.15.144.71]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Someone recently posted a request for information regarding a Power Computing 180 Macintosh clone.

If they will contact me directly, I have the information they wanted.

73,

Rick kf4ar

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 20:32:29 +0100
From: "Juan Antonio Lopez" <jalopezd@arrakis.es>
To: "Low Power Radio Amateur Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79431] Experimental Beacon on 20m
Message-ID: <000301c01dbb\$fe1edfe0\$7f4e05c3@pc>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello to all,

I just put an experimental beacon test on 20 m.

QRG: 14065 KHz
TX: HW-9
PWR: 1W
Ant: Vertical Fritzel 4 bands (2 cloils)
QRA Locator: IL18UL

I'll tks any RST RPRT on this list or to e-mail jalopezd@arrakis.es

(I'm inserting all the reports on the EA-QRPclub Website*, so you can see some part of the real-propa)

Greetings from Tenerife and 72
>Juan Antonio, EA8QJ

Website of the EA-QRP Club URL: http://www.geocities.com/eaqrpclub_es*
Personal Websites URLs: <http://www.arrakis.es/~jalopezd> &
<http://www.geocities.com/jalopezd>
Mailto:jalopezd@arrakis.es

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 15:02:21 -0500
From: "Cla KA0GKC" <ka0gkc@arrl.net>
To: <w5xe@juno.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79432] Re: 80M PSK31 test results
Message-ID: <[04ce01c01dbd\\$f8aebec0\\$0200000a@mcg.net](mailto:04ce01c01dbd$f8aebec0$0200000a@mcg.net)>

----- Original Message -----

From: "Ray Colbert" <w5xe@juno.com>

| Some consideration about moving that psk or
| whatever it is into the digital part of the band.

According to the "Considerate Operator's Frequency Guide" 3.580 to 3.620 is the data subband. PSK31 operators choose to be at the bottom edge of the data subbands so not to interfere with other digital signals. Due to the narrow bandwidth of PSK31 this idea is actually helpful to the 3.579 frequency because it tends to keep wider bandwidth digital signals up the band a few kHz. Much better then trying to fight an RTTY signal I should think.

73 de Cla KA0GKC

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 17:08:00 -0300
From: Dave Marling <dbm@klis.com>
To: jalopezd@arrakis.es
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79433] Re: Experimental Beacon on 20m
Message-ID: <39BFDEA0.A308EB09@klis.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Copied at 2106 GMT RST/339 occasional fading and qrm in southern Nova Scotia/Canada

Dave
VE1VQ

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 17:24:41 -0300
From: Dave Marling <dbm@klis.com>
To: jalopezd@arrakis.es
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79434] Re: Experimental Beacon on 20m
Message-ID: <39BFE289.94250B92@klis.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

At 2130 has just about faded into the noise at RST/229

Dave
VE1VQ

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 20:38:31 +0100
From: Larry S Cahoon <wd3p@juno.com>
To: tacquire@earthlink.net, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79435] Re: Difficulty in copying
Message-ID: <20000913.203841.-443905.0.wd3p@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> little power
> is sort of going over the line. Low power as in 1 watt or more
> sounds fine but
> going into milliwatts?? How many are really sucessful at that?
> Sounds a bit
> sadistic! Oh well whatever blows your whistle I guess! :))))
>

Dan - given the right conditions milliwatting works just fine. Just follow the logic in Rich's (K7SZ) QST piece this month. A 599 at 100

watts translates into a 579 at 6 watts and taking the next step a 559 at 400 mWatts and 449 at 100 mWatts. I'll take a 559 report any day.

I've proven it works. I've worked half the counties in the country at 500 mWatts or less. And all from a dipole and most were with mobile stations. So neither of us had the best of antennas. If you want to see what can be done I have a list for WAS QRP up at my web site under the QRP links. All those were also done with nothing more than a dipole and all started and ended at the powers given.

The key is to know when to try for someone with the milliwatts. It reduces the frustration. But then as I regard every milliwatt QSO as an "event" I'll take the chance. I've gotten to the point now where I regard 1,000 miles per watt QSOs as routine.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD
<http://www.qsl.net/wd3p>

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!

Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!

Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 16:50:32 -0400
From: "Ron Polityka" <wb3aal@fast.net>
To: ". QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79436] N2CQ on AT in MD
Message-ID: <004601c01dc4\$43c73c60\$39745fcc@wb3aal>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ken is calling CQ on 7041.6 @ 20:29 UTC in MD

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 20:52:55 +0100
From: Larry S Cahoon <wd3p@juno.com>
To: epaqrp-l@Lehigh.EDU, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79437] N2CQ on AT in MD - Needs GA from the trail
Message-ID: <20000913.205302.-443905.1.wd3p@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

just worked Ken, N2CQ on 7.040.0 at 2050z. on the AT in MD

He need someone from GA while he is on the trial.

He says he is going to move to 20 meters at 2100z. Hopefully someone from that great state can give him a call then.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!

Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!

Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:

<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 16:28:13 -0500

From: "Ed Manuel (N5EM)" <n5em@flash.net>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Cc: hqrp@stevens.com

Subject: [79438] Houston QRP Club Meeting

Message-ID: <4.3.2.7.2.20000913162439.00b24d60@pop.flash.net>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Gang,

The next meeting of the Houston QRP Club will occur (right on schedule - third Saturday of each month) on Saturday, September 16.

We meet in the community room of the Union Planters Bank, 5005 Woodway just a bit north of the "fashionable Galleria area" in Houston.

We start telling lies at 9am and finish at 11am, usually adjourning to the nearby Fuddruckers for lunch.

Talk in is usually available on the 146.700 (-) repeater if you are new to our group or are visiting our city. Everyone is welcome. Bring your latest QRP rig, QRP project or just your QRP attitude.

Ed Manuel, N5EM

n5em@amsat.org

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 17:30:56 -0400
From: "John P. Cummins, Sr." <jpcummins@att.net>
To: unlisted-recipients;; (no To-header on input)
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79439] Re: N2CQ on AT in MD - Needs GA from the trail
Message-ID: <39BFF210.2EF01BA3@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Just worked Ken on 14060 at 21:28 z. I am near Atlanta, GA so he got that one out of the way.

He is working AF4PS right now. His sigs into Atlanta were really great at about 579 and then some. Pretty good for 5 watts from a NW20.

Pickett, AD4S

Larry S Cahoon wrote:

>
> just worked Ken, N2CQ on 7.040.0 at 2050z. on the AT in MD
>
> He need someone from GA while he is on the trial.
>
> He says he is going to move to 20 meters at 2100z. Hopefully someone from
> that great state can give him a call then.
>
> 73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD
>
> -----
> YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
> Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
> Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
> <http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 15:51:53 -0600 (MDT)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: QRP-L List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79440] Electronic Component Tester
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.10.10009131544001.1312-100000@cannac.ampr.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Radio Shack sells a device by subject name for \$20.00 and I went to a store with a plastic bag of transistors and played with it. Then bought it. It requires 3 AAA batteries and the Owners Manual leaves a lot

to be desired. It is in a language that a Swedish guy said he knows is english...

But if you put a "think it's a transistor" because it has 3 leads on the Tester it will show you the pin that's Base or Gate with a steady light and which is the Anode or Collector or Drain. A light tells you if it's NPN or PNP.

Many of us have large junk boxes. This should hang over the junk box on a nail...

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 18:16:51 -0400
From: "Mike Yetzko" <myetzko@insydesw.com>
To: <k5di@zianet.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79441] Re: Electronic Component Tester
Message-ID: <005d01c01dd0\$54009020\$0600a8c0@dad>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Is that the 22-330 thing? A grey box with three alligator clips on leads?

Years ago they sold this big black box that had a dial on it with a neon light. It was an oscillator that fired a neon bulb. And you could get an idea of the gain of bipolar transistors from it. I haven't used it that much, but when I have used it, it's been a great tool.

You could 'sorta' even match transistors with it, by where the light went out as you turned the dial.

This sounds like another tool to have on the shelf.

But I personally want the Wavetek LAN cable tester. The two piece guy. I just this summer wired the house for 10bt prior to getting a cable modem, and borrowed one of those things. You just can't BELIEVE how much that simplifies wiring work!!! (910-4493 for \$80 on pg 233 of the catalog!)

Then I want a pocket oscilloscope... I'd be a settler and settle
for the Fluke 123...

Mike

> Radio Shack sells a device by subject name for \$20.00 and I went
> to a store with a plastic bag of transistors and played with it. Then
> bought it. It requires 3 AAA batteries and the Owners Manual leaves a lot
> to be desired. It is in a language that a Swedish guy said he knows is
> english...

> But if you put a "think it's a transistor" because it has 3 leads
> on the Tester it will show you the pin that's Base or Gate with a steady
> light and which is the Anode or Collector or Drain. A light tells you if
> it's NPN or PNP.

> - Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 15:30:43 -0700
From: ki6ds@dpol.k12.ca.us (Hendricks, Doug)
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [79442] Pacificon is coming!!
Message-ID: <01c01dd2\$414432a0\$330b0d0a@dhendricks>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Guys, I am as busy as I have ever been in my life. School has started, I am
teaching a new course, AP Biology, for the first time, and I love it. I
have never been so busy and had so much fun teaching in all my career.
Nothing like something new to get the juices running again. What does that
have to do with QRP and Pacificon. Glad you asked my boy, glad you asked..

Pacificon will feature the introduction of not one but two new kits. Both
of them club kits, the PSK31 80 meter Warbler from the NJ QRP Club, and the
NorCal Mini-Stinger by Dan Tayloe, N7VE. We are flying both George Heron
and Dan Tayloe in to give talks about the new kits.

George Heron is the main driving force behind the NJ QRP Club. His work
behind the scenes is legendary. I don't understand why he is not in the QRP
Hall of Fame, but if there is justice in the world, he will be. George will
talk on his new interface for getting on PSK31. Basically what he has done
is put together a PSK31 portable station that features a PSK31 20 meter

board done by Dave Benson and featured in the June issue of QST, and one of the brand new 80 meter PSK31 boards that was developed by Dave Benson and GIVEN to the NJ QRP Club as a club project. Talk about a gracious move, Dave Benson is to be highly commended for his donation of his design skills to QRP. George, has also solved a problem with PSK31 that some people have. He has figured out how to get on the mode without using a computer!! How? By using a paddle to send input in Morse, and he decodes it in morse!! A true mix of the new and old. George's magic box also has other options available for other types of interfaces. Come to Pacificon and hear his talk, you will learn a ton of information on the cutting edge of technology in this new mode of ham radio.

Plus, the NJ Club is going to kit the 80 meter version of the Benson design, called the Warbler. George told me on the phone Sunday that he hopes to have kits for sale at Pacificon, and the price is going to be low, low, low!! I am predicting a sell out of his kits.

Dan Tayloe is the inventor and designer of many ham radio circuits. His design of the LED SWR indicator is renowned the world over for its simplicity and effectiveness. Dan has also designed a new transceiver for NorCal called the Mini Stinger. It is based on the Tayloe mixer, and it is an exciting leap forward. With the Tayloe mixer, the rig has a current draw of about 7 mils in the prototype!! It may be the all time low current consumption champion. The NorCal 40 draws 14 mils, the new K1 50, and RHR NC20 100 mils, the K2 175 in the low current mode (as measured by ARS). The MDS of this receiver is Waaaaay down there. We are not going to release it until we run the lab tests, but they are going to be good. The transceiver will be packaged in a fully painted and silkscreened case, and will be a complete kit. The rig will include the following features: keyer, audio frequency annunciator, built in battery case (runs off 6 double A batteries), it will work from 5 to 18 Volts!!, built in antenna tuner, RIT, all the bells and whistles. The size will be smaller than a paperback book!! Think of it guys, all that you will need is a piece of wire and a set of paddles and you will be on the air. This should be a backpacker's delight, plus a great rig to take on the road. No painting of the case, no lettering, no drilling of holes, all parts. It is going to be a hybrid kit, with through hole parts used where feasible, and surface mount (1206) parts where needed. But the SMK-1 has proven that Qrppers won't have a problem with building such a kit. The cost of the kit will be less than \$100. We won't have kits at Pacificon, but we will have a couple of working prototypes on hand!! Dan's talk will be about the rig, and you will see it first in its final form at Pacificon.

Pacificon is Oct. 20 - 22 at Concord, California. The convention is sponsored by the Mt. Diablo Radio Club. There is a charge for the general convention, and all proceeds go to the MDRC. NorCal sponsors the QRP talks and events, and there is NO additional charge for any of the qrp events or talks.

Tomorrow, I'll talk about the building contests and social events that we are going to have. Fun, Fun, Fun this year at QRPacificon, sponsored by NorCal as a way of reinvesting in QRP.

For more information on Pacificon, please check the NorCal Page.
www.fix.net/norcal.html

72, Doug, ki6ds

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 16:26:47 -0600
From: "Zoerb, Ron" <Zoerb.Ron@broadband.att.com>
To: "'QRP-1 Messages'" <qrp-1@lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [79443] FOX: Help an Underdog!
Message-ID: <5899595F9867D311BC0A00805F57884DC2AD4D@copland.tci.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

To all QRPers,

The Winter Fox Hunting team "UNDERDOGS" are short on dogs. With the size of the teams being expanded to 5 and loosing Underdog/Brian to the "Flying Pigs" in a unrestricted free agency deal we are "underdogged" at this time.

This very successful Fox hunting team excels at biting, digging, itching, scratching, yelping and being a pack of most persistent mongrels on that ole Fox'es tail every step of the way. Check your Fox logs over the past couple of years and you will see the "UNDERDOGS" consistently in the top 1, 2 or 3 spots. We never win any prizes, cuz we know the real reward is in the "hunting" and not the "getting", however the nice soft and shiny pelt of many a Fox lines the shack of an "UNDERDOG".

The job descriptions have been written, the budget has been approved and the recruiting plan has been signed off by all the VP's in the ivory tower, so if you desire to be a "UNDERDOG" and can measure up to the following criteria, please advise me of your availability ASAP so training camp can begin.

Underdog requirements, and by the start of Fox Season:

- You gotta have a rig or rigs that will TX and RX 40 meters or at least where the Fox is gonna be.
- You gotta have an antenna that will TX and RX signals on 40 meters, hopefully where the Fox is gonna be.
- You gotta have a hunting license, like a General, Advanced or Extra, (Tech Plus or Novice for the NT Foxes).

- You gotta have the ability to learn, laugh and have fun. Yes, the Tuesday/Thursday glazed eyes and itchy fingers condition is FUN.
- You gotta have, or get a QRP-1 # and know your (Call Sign, RST, State, Name and QRP-1 number.
- You gotta have fun! Did I say that? If it isn't fun, you aren't trying hard enough..<g>

Ok, that is the requirements. Now meet the current Underdogs:

Underdog Dan / N4ROA in the state of VA. Dan gets his pelt early and often. Dan has been working this off season to keep his computer mouse and CW keyer separate so he doesn't crash his computer and the Fox will think he or she has a chance.

Underdog Ron / KI0II in the state of CO. Ron has been practicing telling UTC time and memorizing the fact that Fox Hunting really takes place on Wednesday and Friday, not Tuesday and Thursday He now has realized the Spartan Sprint is on Tuesday, not Monday.... We hope he is ready.

Underdog Roy/ AB7CE in the state of MT. Roy was the last Fox of the 1999/2000 season and hasn't been heard from since. With all the fires in MT, we hope Roy is ok and will find his way to the shack by opening day cuz he is a sharp shooter.

There you have it. Not much left unsaid about the "UNDERDOGS". If you want to be one, please e-mail me at ki0ii@arrl.net. The paper work is painless, the cost is even better and the benefits are priceless!

Thanks for your patience and Go UNDERDOGS!

72 de Ron ki0ii

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 18:17:50 EDT
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: w7ls@blarg.net, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79444] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
Message-ID: <20000913.183211.4479.3.kc8aon@juno.com>

Some people call this a 'snake-in-the-grass'
>antenna.

I call it a "LOG Periodic" - periodically "Lying On Ground" that is !
SMILE

Best 73 & Don't get on a power trip !
Rick McKee, KC8AON Willow Wood, Ohio
QRP-L #2112 AR-QRP #269 Flying Pigs #33

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 18:14:42 EDT
From: Rick McKee <kc8aon@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [79445] Re: Any experience with the isotron antennas
Message-ID: <20000913.183211.4479.2.kc8aon@juno.com>

To figure the efficiency of an antenna, take the "physical" length in degrees to look up the radiation resistance in any of the ARRL Antenna Handbooks. If the Isotron for 160 was 20' tall, this is approximately 1/32 wavelength long and shows approximately 5 ohms of radiation resistance. Add the radiation resistance to the loss resistance (which is the feedline/transmitter impedance) and devide this into the radiation resistance. So, 5 ohms plus 50 ohms = 55 ohms, 5 ohms devided by 55 ohms = .090909 % efficiency ! I think I'll opt for the wire which is much cheaper !

Best 73 & Don't get on a power trip !
Rick McKee, KC8AON Willow Wood, Ohio
QRP-L #2112 AR-QRP #269 Flying Pigs #33

YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR THE INTERNET!
Juno now offers FREE Internet Access!
Try it today - there's no risk! For your FREE software, visit:
<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 18:51:18 EDT

From: BOBOBOB1@aol.com
To: kc8aon@juno.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)
Subject: [79446] My experience with isotron antennas
Message-ID: <ce.a904a8a.26f15ee6@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have a friend who lives in down town BOSTON....
He is on the ground floor and has no room for a diapole ...the neighbors
would run him out of town if he put up a vertical or a beam
He only uses an Isotron antenna...on 20 meters.
With this antenna he has worked ALL COUNTIES once and is 2/3 of the way to
doing it again.
Does it work?? Absolutely...
The guy who owns Isotron....Ralph is a prince of a guy who operates a
nationwide 40 meter net every sunday using his Isotron .
Give him a call he is a very honest gentleman and he will tell you the truth.
Nuf..said..
Bob Gorman
WA1SCH
Clearwater Beach FL.

PS: By the way i have isotron antenna for 10, 15 and 20 and laying on my roof
they work just fine...not better then my R-7000 but they do work!! If I had
room for a diapole I sure would use it...

Date: Wed, 13 Sep 2000 15:53:18 -0700 (PDT)
From: Jeff Furman <jfurman@ocs.net>
To: lenny wintfeld <w2bvh@home.com>, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [79447] Re: Need specs on some dipped mica caps
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0009131534160.21381-100000@ocs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Lenny, the KS- prefix has been seen on components manufactured by/for
Western Electric Co. I think exclusively for the Bell System. Only post-breakup
have these components legitimately seen commercial markets. The telephone
company has traditionally considered most of its data proprietary, so it's
difficult to find. I found a WE semiconductor summary data book, but, I
don't know if there is any listing of other components mortals can see. I
have been referred to the Telephone Pioneers club for data old timers
might have. I would like to be able to give you a more definitive answer,
but it's only a hint. It doesn't look like those part numbers represent
a systematic encoding of the electrical parameters.
73, Jeff Furman AD6MX

--

End of QRP-L Digest 1943
